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Five NMC students are newest FHB, Guam Business scholars.

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Thousands of typhoon survivors swarm the airport to flee disaster zone.

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'Truck that caught fire also collided with fire truck' PAGE 5

'Ogumoro's resolution is against one-voice stand'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos reiterated yesterday his support for a CNMI provision in pending U.S. immigration reform bills that provide a pathway to improved status for long-term legal aliens in the Commonwealth. At the same time, he said that some House members' decision to oppose the provision is "not a good sign" at a time when the islands should have "one voice."

» **Inos stands by CNMI provision in US immigration reform bills**

The governor is also concerned about the impact on a related issue, wherein the CNMI requests an extension of the CW program beyond Dec. 31, 2014, so that the islands will continue to have access to some 12,000 skilled and professional foreign workers.

Inos said he only became aware of a resolution against improved status for long-term legal aliens in the CNMI on Monday.

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'We owe a lot to our Filipino friends'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On behalf of the CNMI and its people, Gov. Eloy S. Inos expressed yesterday his "sincerest sympathy" to the Philippines in the wake of one of the deadliest supertyphoon in a century. President Barack Obama also extended America's sympathy and spoke of the Filipinos' "incredible resiliency."

Inos, the governor of a U.S. territory that has become home to thousands of Filipinos and Filipino-Americans, called on his fellow CNMI people to "help out in any way possible."

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AGENCIES' MERGER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos confers with Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofsneider and Cabinet members shortly before signing yesterday morning an executive order merging the Division of Environmental Quality and the Coastal Resources Management Office.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 5

BoG donates \$10K for PH disaster relief

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Local relief efforts for victims of Typhoon Haiyan got a major boost yesterday, with Bank of Guam donating \$10,000 to the cause, even as other organizations on Saipan initiated their separate fund and in-kind donation drives.

In a statement, Bank of Guam said it is partnering with the Ayuda Foundation to provide medical supplies and equipment to stricken hospitals in the affected areas.

"As regional community partners, we are mindful of the firsthand experience of devastation that disasters such

as Supertyphoon Haiyan has brought to our friends and families in the Philippines. We offer this assistance in the spirit of shared compassion for those who are suffering as a result of this tragedy," said Bank of Guam president, board chair, and CEO Lou Leon Guerrero.

Meanwhile, Gov. Eloy S. Inos released a statement through press secretary Angel Demapan relaying the CNMI's sympathies on the tragedy, which reports say has claimed upwards of 10,000 lives.

"Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofsneider and I join the people of the Commonwealth in conveying our deepest condolences to the thousands of families who lost their loved ones in the tragic Supertyphoon Haiyan. This was an extremely unpre-

See BOG on Page 4

» **Other donation drives underway**

Local

5 NMC students selected for FHB, *Guam Business* scholarship



Scholars from Northern Marianas College pose for a group photo during yesterday's award ceremony on campus. From left to right, Vicky Concepcion (First Hawaiian Bank), Anne Hayes (Herman's Bakery, BWOY Committee member), Vicky Benavente (Pacific Islands Club, BWOY Committee member), Maureen Maratita (Glimpses Publications, BWOY Committee member), Kathleen Ann Laurio (scholarship recipient), Denicia Avendano (scholarship recipient), Yolanda Lizama (scholarship recipient), Jatanna Cabrera (scholarship recipient), Lin Manalo (vice president of First Hawaiian Bank), and Marie Luise Del Carmen (scholarship recipient).

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Five Northern Marianas College students were named yesterday as recipients of this year's First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year Scholarship, joining 10 other scholars in Guam.

In an awards ceremony on campus, the five students were presented with a ceremonial check indicating an award of \$3,277.50.

Chosen to receive the grants

were Denicia Avendano from the Liberal Arts and Accounting program; Kathleen Laurio from the Liberal Arts and Computer Application; Marie Del Carmen from the Accounting, Business Management, and Computer Applications pro-

gram; Yolanda Lizama from the Computer Applications program; and Jatanna Cabrera, a student in Accounting and Business Management.

First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year scholarship award program provides funding for student scholarships at three higher education institutions in the Marianas: University of Guam, Guam Community College and Northern Marianas College. The scholarships are intended to promote higher education through financial assistance for college students pursuing professional careers.

The five NMC recipients join

seven other scholars from the University of Guam: Jessica Chaco, Florengine Dela Cruz, Maria Allora Esmero, Ryan Troy Imamura, Marie Fraince Javier, Alvijane Joy Manabat, and Kassandra Marquez. Scholars from the Guam Community College included Ann Mariel Flores, Faith Hope Francisco, and Alexine Gentapanan.

This year's scholarship award totals \$15,907.50.

Since 2006, the program has awarded a total of \$152,555 in scholarships to deserving students in the community. The scholarships are awarded based on the recipients' total number of credit hours enrolled in the

semester, their grades, involvement in the community, and potential to become successful business people. All applicants are required to submit a written essay and evidence of financial need. Each of the recipients has a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Applications are open to full-time and part-time students of the three educational institutions.

Funds for the scholarships were raised through the 2013 Businesswoman of the Year Gala, held on April 29, 2013. In addition to raising funds for these scholarships, the annual event recognizes women who make a difference in business.

Credit union audit remains pending

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

It's been almost a year since members of the Commonwealth Government Employees Credit Union were placed on wait mode for a refund on their money but no solid timeframe has been reached as to when this will happen.

Credit union chair Angel Demapan confirmed yesterday that the much-needed audit for the organization is still in the works and the government has yet to identify funds to pay for the members' refunds.

Demapan disclosed that the union will seek relief from the Legislature so it could fulfill its unpaid obligation to members.

"The CGECU is awaiting the release of the final audit report," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the credit union recently submitted its comments to the audit's final draft and is now awaiting the final document.

» Members still in wait mode

The exact number of credit union members also remains unknown. Demapan earlier said that more than 300 members want to withdraw their contributions.

The union's biggest challenge, it was learned, is the huge amount of delinquent loans totaling about \$575,000.

"As to refunds, the CGECU remains hopeful that there will be legislative relief in the form of appropriation in order for the CGECU to make whole with its members who do not have any outstanding loans. As it stands

now, there are more requests for withdrawals than there are funds in the CGECU's possession. This was a result of a high rate in delinquency by CGECU borrowers. The CGECU is seeking legislative relief so that all its members can fairly and equally receive their funds," he said.

In an early interview with Gov. Eloy S. Inos, he said he wants to tap the general fund to pay the refunds of union members. A policy decision is also being planned for the union after it retires all its obligations.

"Once [the audit is] finalized, we will have a better idea how to move forward. [But] definitely, we have to make a policy decision on what we want to do with the credit union," Inos earlier said.

The government credit union program was formed in 1995 and was authorized to borrow up to \$2 million from the Retirement Fund. However, due to delinquency, this prompted the Fund to sue the union. The case is pending in court.

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Corporation board OKs \$40.9M hospital budget

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board approved yesterday a \$40.9-million budget for this fiscal year, which provides an additional 103 positions for the organization.

Based on the budget history presented during yesterday's meeting, the \$40.933 million will be split into \$26.285 million for personnel and \$14.647 million for all others and operation. The new budget indicates a total of 555 FTEs, or full-time employees.

This is a \$3.3-million increase compared to the fiscal year 2013

actual expenses of \$37.595 million: \$20.8 million went to personnel and \$16.696 million for all others. The corporation had 452 FTEs in the previous fiscal year.

In a resolution adopted yesterday, the board emphasized that since compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid is the organization's top priority in fiscal year 2014, interim CEO Esther Muña should be given full flexibility in implementing the new budget.

"It is the priority goal and desire of the [corporation] to be

fully compliant with the CMS Conditions of Participation in this fiscal year and, in order to achieve that goal, it is necessary and appropriate that the CEO be given the utmost flexibility in the execution of the [fiscal year] 2014 budget, to wit: to make changes she deems necessary and proper," states the board resolution signed by all trustees.

According to the board, the planned expenditures for the fiscal year will be impacted by the results of the recently completed Medicare resurvey, the decision of which remains

pending to date.

Of the \$40.9 million allotted this new fiscal year, the bulk will go to the Commonwealth Health Center, totaling \$37.1 million. Of that amount, \$23.3 million will pay for the salaries of 461 personnel while \$13.7 million will go to operation.

The Rota Health Center has the next higher budget of \$1.9 million: \$1.2 million for personnel and \$675,744 for all others. The Rota clinic has 43 full-time employees under the new budget.

The Tinian Health Center, which has 28 FTEs under the budget, will get \$997,406. A total of \$831,926 will be for personnel, while \$165,480 is for all others.

The Public Health Division

will get \$542,873, of which \$495,173 will pay for the salaries of its 17 personnel and \$47,700 will be for operation.

The Mental Health Division will get \$312,080 for its six personnel.

During yesterday's deliberation, board vice chair Pete Dela Cruz sought clarifications on the numbers presented by acting chief financial officer Cora Ada, who said the projections were made using comparative data from previous and current fiscal years, including account receivables and other financial records.

'No more surprises'

Despite the lack of a perma-

gent CFO for the organization, board members lauded the efforts demonstrated by the management in coming up with a "simple" budgetary process for the next 12-month period. A thorough and extensive budget submission, they said, is the topmost duty of a CFO.

If there's one thing that Dela Cruz wants from the management regarding the budgeting process, it is its full accountability and transparency to the board.

"Please, no more surprises! Whatever shortfall or adjustment [to be made] it has to be reported to the board," he said, citing a previous situation when the board was caught by surprise on the issue of non-payment of hospital obligations to the Internal Revenue Service.

Clarity sought on authority, scope of work of doc, nurse practitioner

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. interim CEO Esther Muña is expected to issue soon a memorandum to all medical staff clarifying the limits and terms of authority inside medical rooms and clinics.

Muña gave the assurance yesterday during the board meeting after listening to concerns raised by board vice chair Pete Dela Cruz about "clashes" between physicians and nurse practitioners.

Nurse practitioners are individuals allowed to perform certain functions similar to doctors.

Dela Cruz pointed out that the existence of an internal policy that will clarify each provider's role will prevent the obvious clashes between some physicians and nurse practitioners assigned in similar sections.

He cited a previous situation at the Tinian Health Center where it was reported that a nurse practitioner didn't want to take instructions from the center's medical doctor. Dela Cruz emphasized the importance of an internal policy that will clarify the scope of work and responsibilities expected of each medical staff.

According to the corporation's director for medical affairs, Dr. Sherleen Osman, physicians assigned to the Rota and Tinian health centers obviously have the authority over any nurse practitioner as they sit as the center's medical director. She pointed out that nurse practitioners fall under the medical staff category and subject to the guidance of hospital physicians.

"I think we should have an internal regulation [on this]. But, NPs most of the time listen to the doctor. NPs fall under the medical staff [category]," said Osman.

A nurse practitioner is an advanced practice registered nurse who has completed advanced didactic and clinical education beyond that required of the registered nurse role. NPs (within their scope of practice)

are qualified to diagnose medical problems, order treatments, prescribe medications, and make referrals for a wide range of acute and chronic medical conditions.

Dela Cruz said that an internal policy on NPs will eradicate "clashes" between medical providers.

"Remember, we had this case [at the] Tinian Health Center where doctors ran away because of such clashes [with the NP]. Let's not repeat that," said Dela Cruz.

Muña assured that a memorandum to address the matter would be issued soon. She acknowledged that despite the existence of some laws pertaining to nurse practitioners, an internal regulation must be built in to ensure each medical staff is fully aware of their duties and functions.



Acting Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief financial officer Cora Ada, right, gestures as she justifies the \$40.9-million proposed budget for the CHCC during yesterday's board meeting at the Commonwealth Health Center. Others in photo are board chair Joaquin Torres, vice chair Pete Dela Cruz, Ada, and interim CEO Esther Muña.

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Judge dismisses case vs Canuto

The Superior Court has dismissed the criminal case filed against former Island Florals and Gift operations manager Felipe O. Canuto, who was accused of embezzling funds from the company.

Associate Judge Joseph N.

BOG

From Page 1

edented storm that took so many lives and property," Inos said. "We pray for the survivors as they recover from the harm that has been inflicted on them by the storm. I have spent time reaching out to Filipinos on island to find out if they have heard from their families and whether their homes were impacted by the devastating typhoon."

The governor also cited the historical ties that link the two island groups. "The CNMI and the Philippines share a relatively rich history together, so this undoubtedly is a tragedy that hits us close to our hearts. From this relationship, we have also come to know that the people of the Philippines are resilient people. It is our hope that the country will come together to rebuild and recover. In this respect, I humbly ask the people of the Commonwealth to stand ready to assist in relief efforts that may be organized locally. We also ask for everyone's continued prayers."

The Archdiocese of Chalan Kanoa will be devoting the next nine days of Masses for Haiyan's victims and will take up a second collection in all Masses this Sunday for typhoon victims, according to Fr. Ryan Jimenez.

"We will forward all our collections to Caritas Manila, which is the official social arm of the archdiocese doing relief operations," said Jimenez, the apostolic administrator of the archdiocese.

Jimenez urged Filipinos in the CNMI to keep their faith in the face of the tragedy that hit their homeland.

"My message to our *kababayans* here on Saipan is that

FILIPINO

From Page 1

"This is the Philippines. We owe a lot to our Filipino friends, folks who have been here and helped us through the hard times as well. We need to have a way of helping out in this very, very unfortunate situation. Our heart goes out to those families of folks who have lost their lives. And we wish folks who are struggling to survive, hopefully they would be out of this challenge," Inos told reporters after signing an executive order merging two environmental agencies yesterday morning.

Typhoon Haiyan struck

Camacho dismissed without prejudice the case after the Office of the Attorney General moved for its dismissal last week.

Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda informed the court that the government is "unable to prove this case

beyond a reasonable doubt at this time."

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that the owner of Island Florals and Gift appeared at the Department of Public Safety on March 19, 2013, to report a theft case

against Canuto.

According to Pangelinan, the audit for the years 2009, 2010, and 2011 showed that the amount of money stolen has already reached \$96,774.75.

Canuto surrendered to police last April after learning that police had been hunting him. He pleaded not guilty. (Ferdie de la Torre)

TYphoon Fund Drive Accounts

NDRRMC

Account Name: NDRRMC Donated Funds

Account Numbers: 0435-021927-030 (Peso Account);

0435-021927-530 (Dollar Account)

Swift Code: DBPHPHMM Account #36002016

Address: Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), Camp Aguinaldo Branch, PVAO Compound, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines 1110

Contact Person: Rufina A. Pasqual, Collecting Officer, NDRRMC, Office of Civil Defense, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Contact Nos.: (632) 421-1920; 911-5061 up to 65 local 116

Email Address: accounting@ocd.gov.ph;

Website: www.ndrrmc.gov.ph

DSWD

Account number: 3124-0055-81

Bank Branch Address:

Land Bank of the Philippines, Batasan, Quezon City, Philippines

Contact person: Fe Catalina Ea (Cash Division)

Contact Nos.: (+632) 931-8101 loc. 226,

Mobile No.: (+63918) 628-1897

Website: www.dswd.gov.ph

PHILIPPINE RED CROSS

Website: www.redcross.org.ph

Contact No.: (632)527-0000

Bank Accounts for Donations:

Banco De Oro

Peso: 00-453-0018647

Dollar: 10-453-0039482

Swift Code: BNORPHMM

Philippine National Bank

Peso: 3752 8350 0034

Dollar: 3752 8350 0042

Swift Code: PNBMPHMM

Metrobank

Peso: 151-3-041631228

Dollar: 151-2-15100218-2

Swift Code: MBTCPHMM

Unionbank of the Philippines

Peso: 1015 4000 0201

Dollar: 1315 4000 0090

Swift Code: UBPHPHMM

we remain united in prayer with our brothers and sisters in the Philippines, especially those affected by this typhoon. Let us do what we can to help them. This is the time where we can concretely live out our identity as 'members of the one body of Christ,'" he said.

The Salvation Army is also accepting cash donations for the typhoon victims, according to pastor Wayne Gillespie. Speaking at yesterday's Saipan Rotary Club meeting, Gillespie said they would send their collection

to the Philippine Red Cross. He said they would not be accepting in-kind donations at this time because of the logistical problems these types of donations present.

The United Filipino Organization started its Yolanda fund drive yesterday at the Tuesday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base.

UFO president Annamae Adaza said the donation campaign will continue Thursday at the Thursday Street Market at the Garapan Fishing Base

DEATH TOLL FROM TYPHOON

The numbers of dead and missing in Philippine provinces hit by Typhoon Haiyan, based on regional government officials and media reports. The figures for Leyte and Samar reflect estimates, rather than actual body counts. All are preliminary.

The government's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said it has a confirmed death toll of 1,744 people, with another 2,487 hurt. Its figures differ slightly from estimates by local officials.

In the CNMI, Filipinos have also just started receiving news about the condition of their families and friends in the typhoon-ravaged areas.

Inos also noted that the super typhoon that devastated the

and the Sabalu Market and the Nauru Saturday Market this coming Saturday.

She said all cash donations will be sent through *Sagip Kapamilya* of ABS-CBN.

LBC Mabuhay, a remittance and cargo service company, has agreed to accept in-kind donations like non-perishable relief goods that will be sent for free to areas affected by Yolanda in the Philippines.

"Good news, since a lot of people are asking about the in-kind donations, now with the help of Mr. Val Gatchalian, the general manager of LBC Mabuhay, we can send those goods back home to our *kababayans*," said Adaza.

The in-kind donations will be sent to the Philippine National Red Cross.

Donations of clothes, canned goods, noodles, shoes, towels, tarps, and anything that victims can use will be accepted. In-kind donations can be dropped off at LBC Mabuhay's Susupe office Monday to Saturday from 9am to 7pm, and Sunday from 9am to 6pm.

"Those who will donate used clothing, please make sure that it is clean, knowing that those people who will receive it have no time to wash it. Once again, this fund drive shows how we extend our help to the needy. A lot of people now are helping. We got a lot of calls about the fund drive, asking how they can help," said Adaza.

Those who wish to donate to the UFO's fund drive may call Adaza at 483-5237 or UFO secretary Mario Mayuga at 285-1021.

Shenanigans Restaurant is also pledging to donate 10 percent of its total sales from Nov. 13 to 20 to victims of Yolanda. The Garapan restaurant is also accepting monetary donations as well.

DEATH TOLL FROM TYPHOON

■ Leyte: Up to 10,000 feared dead, with an undetermined number of missing. Widespread severe damage. Communications, transport cut in many areas.

■ Samar: 400 dead, 2,000 missing.

■ Eastern Samar: 162 dead, 19 missing.

■ Cebu: 63 dead, 8 missing.

■ Iloilo: 48 dead.

■ Capiz: 24 dead, 1 missing.

■ Aklan: 5 dead.

■ Antique: 4 dead, 8 missing.

(AP)

Philippines developed in the Marianas area. to those who have lost their lives and perished... I'm sorry that that thing started here in our area," the governor said.

Obama, for his part, said he

OGUMORO

From Page 1

That was the day a story was published about the House Committee on Foreign and Federal Relations' decision—after an almost six-hour meeting on Friday—to support and recommend House adoption of Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro's (R-Saipan) House Resolution 18-34.

Ogumoro's resolution requests U.S. Congress to "hold indefinitely" any action on a section in S. 744 and similar legislation "which will allow thousands of alien workers, their families, and persons of other ethnic origin or race who are in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to become U.S. permanent residents and subsequently become U.S. citizens."

The committee members recommending full House adoption of H.R. 18-34 are committee chair Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Saipan), Ogumoro, Reps. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), Antonio Agulto (Ind-Saipan), John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan), and Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan).

The House could act on Ogumoro's resolution on Rota this Friday.

From the start, Inos has supported the general idea of a pathway to improved status for legal long-term aliens in the CNMI.

Sablan, in a separate interview, reiterated that the issue of immigration "was settled in 1975 when the people approved the Covenant."

"If the federal government is infringing upon Northern Marianas sovereignty, with immigration, then why don't take Public Law 110-229 to court? Former governor [Benigno] Fitial thought about this, he tried, and then backed off because he knew he couldn't do that," Sablan said.

Conner said the committee thinks it is confusing that U.S. Public Law 110-229 provides a phase out of the alien worker population by Dec. 31, 2014, "and then they turned around and put in S. 744 a provision granting status to them. So what do they want?"

But the CNMI-specific provision does not have an automatic grant of status as some CNMI lawmakers claim. Instead, S. 744 and H.R. 15 only allow affected aliens to "apply" for improved status.

and first lady Michelle "are deeply saddened by the loss of life and extensive damage done by Super Typhoon Yolanda."

"But I know the incredible resiliency of the Philippine people, and I am confident that the spirit of *bayanihan* will see you through this tragedy. The United States is already providing significant humanitarian assistance, and we stand ready to further assist the government's relief and recovery efforts. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the millions of people affected by this devastating storm,"

Without Sablan's provision, "anyone who's been here as of December 2011, who has no felony conviction, who has no three misdemeanor charges, would be eligible to a path [to citizenship]."

Sablan's provision allows legal aliens who have been in the CNMI since at least 2003 to "apply" for permanent residency or "green card" five years after the immigration reform bill is signed into law.

Both S. 744 and H.R. 15 provide a pathway to U.S. citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in America.

Inos and Sablan had been discussing the CNMI-specific provision in these bills.

"This is not a good time to talk about that because...what's going to happen to the [CW] extension? These things pretty much go hand in hand," the governor added.

Conner earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that the committee feels that the U.S. is "unilaterally imposing something on the CNMI."

CNMI immigration is now under federal control.

Conner said the committee would like Covenant 902 negotiations to happen, for example, between the CNMI and the United States before any legislation providing a pathway to citizenship for aliens in the CNMI.

Sablan, in a separate interview, reiterated that the issue of immigration "was settled in 1975 when the people approved the Covenant."

"If the federal government is infringing upon Northern Marianas sovereignty, with immigration, then why don't take Public Law 110-229 to court? Former governor [Benigno] Fitial thought about this, he tried, and then backed off because he knew he couldn't do that," Sablan said.

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Obama said in a statement.

In the CNMI, humanitarian groups such as American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, businesses such as Tan Holdings, and organizations such as the United Filipino Organization and MDX, have initiated fund drives to help the victims of Yolanda.

The CNMI has extended help to its neighbors and friends in their times of needs. When a killer quake and tsunami struck Japan in 2011, for example, the CNMI government, private sector, and private citizens went all out to extend aid.

ON THE HEELS OF FEDS' CONCERNs, NEEDED EFFICIENCY

Inos merges environmental agencies DEQ, CRMO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed an executive order yesterday reorganizing and merging the Division of Environmental Quality and the Coastal Resources Management Office, hoping to stem overlapping functions and address the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's concerns that led to a change in the way its grant funds are released, among other things.

The governor pointed out that no employee will be displaced as a result of the reorganization, that employees will retain their civil service status, and that funding remains the same—at least for fiscal year 2014.

"No major change is anticipated in here. It's basically to consolidate the two and put them under one umbrella," Inos told the crowd in the governor's conference room on Capitol Hill.

Inos also hopes that the reorganization will "give greater efficiency in everything that we do here."

The reorganization plan becomes effective 60 days after submission to the Legislature,

unless a majority of the members of the House and Senate specifically modify or disapprove it.

This comes weeks after Inos also merged the Department of Labor and the Workforce Investment Agency, as well as the Emergency Management Office and the CNMI Office of Homeland Security as part of its government streamlining efforts.

"CRM encountered some detour in its mission, primarily in terms of its ability to perform under normal circumstances because of funding situation. Certain steps were taken by grantor agency which finally led us to rethink how we should manage our responsibilities under the Coastal Zone Management Act," Inos said shortly before signing the executive order.

In an interview later, Inos said the former CRM administrator "tried to correct those things" but it was at a point wherein it was "just too overwhelming."

One of the problems is pending audits, which the governor said may be done "by the end of the month."

With DEQ and CRMO personnel looking on, the gover-

nor signed Executive Order 2013-24 that establishes the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

The bureau will be headed by an administrator and will have two divisions: DEQ and CRMO.

Inos also announced that DEQ director Frank Rabauliman becomes the new bureau's administrator. Rabauliman will appoint the directors of CRM and DEQ.

Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofsneider, Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio, Rabauliman, and acting CRMO administrator Ana Agulto were on hand for the executive order signing.

The governor, in his four-page order, said that integrating CRMO and DEQ will help to achieve "a more ideal CNMI representation to the public and to U.S. federal agencies," such as NOAA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This is by "fully integrating and collaborating in the architecture of their agencies' grants, strategic goals, and objectives."

Inos said the integration will

also establish an efficient and economical agency that will benefit the public by having a more efficient permitting process, eliminating overlapping and redundant responsibilities, and attaining positive collaboration in common areas of environmental management by sharing resources while engaged in similar purposes, mission, and duties.

Rabauliman thanked the gov-

ernor for ensuring that DEQ and CRM remain intact under one umbrella agency.

"As stated in the executive order, both CRM and DEQ have a lot of related responsibilities and we hope to identify those areas where we can further streamline the working relationships we have," he told the crowd.

One of the primary issues for consideration is logistics, including whether to place the two separate physical offices under one building, and Rabauliman said he will be working on this.

"There would be no co-mingling of funds between NOAA grants and CRM grants versus DEQ funds. Their property will remain property within those agencies because of the funding situation," Inos said.

The governor also signed the EO days before meeting with NOAA deputy assistant secretary. He said he will discuss the reorganization in that meeting.

In answering a question from Commerce Secretary Sixto Ijismar, the governor said the CRM board will remain.

Rabauliman said EPA and NOAA are "on board with this."

Truck that caught fire also collided with fire truck'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The delivery truck that caught fire across the Mobil Kagman gas station Monday afternoon also rolled backward and collided with a fire truck.

Nevertheless, according to Department of Public Safety Fire Division spokesman Jocelyn Alvarez yesterday, no one was injured in the incident.

Alvarez said the box-type cargo truck was owned by Taro Sue Corp. It sustained severe damage from the fire.

Alvarez said the DPS Fire Engine truck had minimal damage and is still operational.

Alvarez said the male driver of Taro Sue's cargo truck was attempting to exit Kagman when he smelled smoke inside the vehicle. The driver stopped the truck on an incline position on the center exit lane across the Mobil Kagman station. He then noticed heavy smoke coming from under the hood.

The driver applied the parking brake and exited the truck. When he noticed flames he immediately contacted DPS at 2:13pm.

Alvarez said the first medic unit arrived at the scene at 2:16pm and confirmed that no one had been injured.

Alvarez said the closest fire truck came from the Garapan Fire Station arrived at 2:22pm.

While firefighters were in the process of extinguishing the blaze that engulfed the truck, the vehicle's brake system failed. The truck then rolled backward, colliding with a fire truck, which served as a barricade. The fire truck prevented the burning vehicle from colliding with other vehicles on the oncoming traffic. Firefighters later managed to extinguish the blaze.

"Due to an ongoing investigation, no further details could be released as of this time," Alvarez said.

NOTICE

Danilo N. Cabonton
Nila A. Isip

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THE U.S. NAVY INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
Mariana Islands Training and Testing EIS/OEIS

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with the continuation of military readiness training and testing activities conducted within the Mariana Islands.

Training and Testing (MITT) Study Area. The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

We welcome your input!

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review and comment from Sept. 13, 2013, to Dec. 12, 2013 (ChST).

Submit Written Comments To:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific
Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Submit comments online at www.MITT-EIS.com.

All comments must be postmarked or received online by Dec. 12, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST), for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS.

Visit the following public libraries or www.MITT-EIS.com to view the document: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Tinian Public Library or the Rota Public Library.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



PUBLIC NOTICE OF CUC'S PROPOSED ELECTRIC BASE RATE, NON-RATE ELECTRIC FEES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ON DECEMBER 9-12, 2013

This is a notice of a formal request to increase the rates, fees and/or charges of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), and to notify ratepayers of the public hearings before the CNMI Public Utilities Commission (Commission) which regulates CUC pursuant to Public Law 15-35, as amended. On July 5, 2013, CUC filed a petition and supporting evidence with the Commission to raise its rates and its electric fees and charges, under Docket 13-01. CUC filed a first amendment to the petition on November 8, 2013. CUC also filed an Emergency Petition for Pipeline Project Funding on November 6, 2013. Together these requests are referred to as the "Rate Case." These increases, if granted, will become effective **January 9, 2014**, or as otherwise determined by the Commission. The requested Pipeline surcharge may become effective as early as **December 13, 2013**, or as otherwise determined by the Commission.

The Commission will conduct a public hearing on **December 9 & 10, 2013** at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Saipan; **December 11, 2013** at the CNMI Superior Court, Tinian at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.; and **December 12, 2013** at the CNMI Superior Court, Rota at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. to receive evidence, argument, discussion and public comment on the Rate Case. The Commission will conduct a special business meeting to make decisions regarding matters considered at the public hearing.

CUC is required by statute and a U.S. District Court Stipulated Order to achieve "full cost recovery." This means that CUC's revenues must fully cover the cost of providing service to its customers. CUC's costs include the costs of maintenance, repair, materials and supplies, labor, vehicles, meters and Stipulated Order mandated projects. CUC demonstrates in the Rate Case that it is operating at a substantial deficit, and relies entirely on the revenues from its customers and federal grants. CUC's operating revenues for FY 2012 were \$97.7 million but its operating expenses were \$104 million. This results in an overall operating loss of (\$8,230,994). The proposed rate increases are necessary for CUC to achieve and maintain financial health and provide service in compliance with CNMI and federal regulations.

The Rate Case is brought to account for Stipulated Order requirements, declining customer and volume bases, operating and capital cost increases, and typhoon preparedness requirements. CUC's recommended electric rate design includes elimination of the Lifeline Rate in favor of a low income credit, the reconfiguration of rate blocks, and implementation of a standby charge. Notably, CUC seeks to replace the Lifeline electric rate with a plan that is more beneficial to its low-income ratepayers. This involves offering a credit based on Public Law 16-7 of up to \$28 per month for residential customers who use less than 200 kWh per month. In addition, CUC recommends a compression of the Residential electric rate blocks. CUC recommends that a standby charge be implemented based on the installed generating capacity of commercial customers with a kW demand of greater than 200 kW, that generate all or a significant portion of their own electrical requirements. CUC also seeks adoption of changes to: Non-rate Electric fees; NMIAC § 50-30-705 Non-payment of Bills, and NMIAC § 50-30-710 Non-compliance with CUC's Regulations (to apply to all divisions). CUC also has added requests for funding of Telesource Change Order No. 5; repairs to Power Plant 1; funding of Stipulated Order No. 2 projects; and calculating the LEAC monthly if necessary in its First Amendment to the July 5, 2013 Petition. CUC requests that the Commission adopt rate increases and fees as follows:

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION PROPOSED ELECTRIC BASE RATE DESIGN November 2013 Amended Rate Filing								
E. 1	E. 2	E. 3	E. 4	E. 5				
Residential	Commercial	Government	Lifeline	Municipal Pumping				
CURRENT ELECTRIC RATES -- BASE CHARGE								
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 7.69	\$ 10.53	\$ 10.53	\$ 6.51	\$ 9.06			
Per kWh:								
- 501 1,001 2,001	500 1,000 2,000 Ab ove	0.0220 0.0910 0.1180 0.1740	0.1180 0.1240 0.1240 0.1180	0.1240 0.0910 0.1180 0.1240	0.0190 0.0910 0.1180 0.1740	0.1070 0.1070 0.1070 0.1070		
PROPOSED ELECTRIC RATES -- BASE CHARGE								
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 9.27	\$ 13.16	\$ 11.33	NA	\$ 9.06			
Per kWh:								
- 301 601 1,201	300 600 1,200 Ab ove	0.0220 0.1300 0.1700 0.1790	0.1400 0.1400 0.1400 0.1400	0.1300 0.1300 0.1300 0.1300	NA NA NA NA	0.1070 0.1070 0.1070 0.1070		

NON-RATE ELECTRIC FEES

ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	ELECTRIC FEES	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Late Charge	1% of Past Due	10% of Past Due	New Service - Meter Change Out Fee	\$95.00	\$95.00
NSF Check Charge	\$25.00	\$40.00	New Service Electric - Single Phase	TMO	\$450.00
Security Deposit - Prepaid Meter	-	\$175.00	New Service Electric - 3-Phase	TMO	\$800.00
Security Deposit - Electric Residential	Varies	Varies	New Service Connection - After Hours - Electric	TMO	\$600.00
Security Deposit - Electric Commercial	Varies	Varies	Inspection Fee - Electric	\$30.00	\$90.00
Labor Fees - Regular Business Hours			Investigation Fee - Electric	-	\$210.00
Clerical/Specialist	-	\$17.00	Meter Test Fee - Electric - Single Phase	\$30.00	\$75.00
Technical/Field	-	\$26.00	Meter Test Fee - Electric - 3-Phase	\$30.00	\$110.00
Professional	-	\$45.00	Disconnection Notice - Electric	-	\$15.00
Labor Fees - After Hours			Disconnect at Meter	-	\$45.00
Clerical/Specialist	-	\$26.00	Disconnect at Pole	-	\$220.00
Technical/Field	-	\$38.00	Reconnect at Meter - Non-Residential	\$150.00	\$60.00
Professional	-	\$67.00	Reconnect at Pole - Non-Residential	\$150.00	\$200.00
After Hours Call Out - Non-Emergency	-	\$290.00	Renewable Energy Install Inspection Fee	-	\$690.00
Vehicle Fees			Renewable Energy Annual Inspection Fee	-	\$125.00
Pick-Up Truck	\$15/hr	\$115/day	Unauthorized Connection - Electric	-	\$550.00
Bucket Truck	\$50/hr	\$225/day	Line Extension	TMO	TMO
Boom Truck	\$50/hr	\$95/hr	Pole Attachment Fees	Per Contract	Per Contract
Auger	\$75/hr	\$120/hr			
Materials	Materials + 25%	Materials + 25%			

The Rate Case filing, in its entirety, is available on CUC's website at: <http://www.cucgov.org>. Please click on the link/button on the Home Page titled "Regulatory Matters/Public Utilities Commission" to view or download the documents. A written copy of all petition materials will also be available for inspection at the following places: CUC Admin Office: Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building; CUC Tinian Office; CUC Rota Office.

Local Soroptimist Club offers \$1K scholarship

A newly chartered international organization for women in the CNMI is looking for applicants for its \$1,000 scholarship grant.

Soroptimist International Northern Mariana Islands, which was chartered on Oct. 27, has opened application for its Women's Opportunity Awards, a program that helps women who provide the primary source of financial support for their families by giving them the resources they need to improve their education, skills, and employment prospects.



MARK RABAGO

Soroptimist International Northern Mariana Islands president Jill Arenovski served as one of the guests of Saipan Rotary Club's weekly meeting yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"We are on a deadline. We just chartered our club last October and most clubs around the world have had since April to get ready to gear up for this Women's Opportunity Awards," said the local Soroptimist Club's president, Jill Arenovski, while speaking to Saipan Rotary Club members yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

She said that Soroptimist International gave their newly chartered organization \$1,000 to start its Women's Opportunity Awards program.

"We haven't done any fundraising. We don't have a bank account and we don't have anything yet except 18 professional women who really want to make these islands a better place and that includes Tinian and Rota," she said.

The Women's Opportunity Awards is open to women who want to improve their job skills through education and training.

From the initial Nov. 30 deadline, Arenovski said they have extended the deadline to Dec. 15. Applicants for the Women's Opportunity Awards will be judged by non-Soroptimist.

"The only criteria for this award is that it will be awarded

The award may be used to offset any costs associated with efforts to attain higher education, such as books, childcare and transportation.

Soroptimist International is a global women's organization whose members volunteer to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.

For more information about Soroptimist International Northern Mariana Islands and the Women's Opportunity Awards, contact Arenovski at 287-9395 or sinorthernmarianaislands@soroptimist.net. (Mark Rabago)

Applications now open for '14 Presidential Awards for OFWs

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas.

Established by virtue of an executive order signed in 1991, the Presidential Awards is a biennial search to recognize exceptional individuals and organizations for their outstanding contribution to Philippine progress and development. Since its inception, 367 overseas-based individuals and organizations from 46 countries and territories have already been conferred such Presidential Awards.

The award consists of four categories: Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino (LINKAPIL) Award, Banaag Award, Kaanib ng Bayan Award, and Pamana ng Pilipino Award.

The rules on the filing of nomination, nomination forms and other information are available at www.bbfi.com.ph. For further details, call the Philippine Consulate General at (671) 646-4620 or email: pcgagana@gmail.com or cultural.pcgagana@gmail.com. (PR)

So far, the following persons and organizations from Guam have been the recipients of such

MTCU donates vehicle, cameras, computers to DPS

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Micronesian Transnational Crime Unit, one of the eight joint law enforcement intelligence units that are spread across the Pacific, donated to the Department of Public Safety yesterday a brand new Ford Explorer, three surveillance cameras, three desktop computers, and one laptop—all worth over \$40,000.

MTCU adviser Detective Sgt. Matthew Reynolds of the Australian Federal Police

Woodruff alleges his wife hit him with car

Lawyer Stephen C. Woodruff alleges that his wife ran him over with a car and hit him twice with the vehicle during an argument along the road near Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe last week.

Woodruff sustained bruises on his legs and scratches on his shoulders and the back of his head. He was treated at the Commonwealth Health Center, police said.

Virginia C. Avendano-Woodruff, 42, was arrested that same night, Wednesday, for reckless driving and disturbing the peace. She is being kept on a \$6,000 bail.

Assistant public defender Benjamin Petersburg served as counsel for the defendant.

Woodruff watched yesterday's bail hearing with his daughter. He was walking with a small cane.

According to police detective Isapen Bokuku in her report, Woodruff and his wife had just come from Mt. Carmel Church

handed the donations to DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero. The Australian Federal Police provides investigative and financial support to MTCU, which is based in Pohnpei.

At a press conference at DPS, Reynolds said it is a great pleasure to support DPS' Transnational Crime Unit and they appreciate the cooperation the department provides to MTCU.

Reynolds also stressed that the Pacific Transnational Crime Unit Network is not run by the

and were heading along Beach Road aboard their car when the two began arguing.

The lawyer asked his wife to stop the car, but she allegedly refused and instead accelerated. When they reached a road leading to the Office of the Attorney General and Joeten Kiyu Library, Woodruff managed to open the car's door and got down.

As he was trying to get his bag from the car, the wife allegedly rapidly reversed the car. The car's rear door hit Woodruff on the right shoulder, knocking him down to the ground. His head hit the pavement. When Woodruff got up, his wife allegedly drove forward and the tire ran over his foot. When he tried to grab his things again from the rear seat, she allegedly reversed and slammed on the accelerator, hitting him again.

A police officer and an ambulance later arrived. The report did not mention whether the wife was arrested at the scene. *(Saipan Tribune)*

Australian Federal Police, as Australia is only one of the members of the partnership.

Citing the recent seizures of hundreds of kilograms of cocaine on Coco Island and in Vanuatu, he underscored the important role MTCU plays in gathering information to battle transnational crimes.

Reynolds said MTCU is like the Interpol of the Pacific.

MTCU was established in April 2008. Its main role is criminal intelligence gathering and target development. It consists of law enforcement representatives from Pohnpei, the CNMI, Palau, and FSM.

DPS Commissioner Deleon Guerrero said the DPS Bureau of Criminal Intelligence under Sgt. Thomas Blas is currently



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Detective Sgt. Matthew Reynolds of the Australian Federal Police hands to Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero the keys to a brand new Ford Explorer the Micronesian Transnational Crime Unit has donated to DPS.

overseeing the department's MTCU. Police officer Fred Sato is DPS' MTCU representative.

Deleon Guerrero said that DPS' role in the partnership is sharing intelligence information not just in Micronesia but throughout the entire Pacific Islands that MTCU encompasses.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



PUBLIC NOTICE OF CUC'S PROPOSED NON-RATE WATER AND WASTEWATER FEES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ON DECEMBER 9-12, 2013

This is a notice of a formal request to increase the rates, fees and/or charges of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), and to notify ratepayers of the public hearings before the CNMI Public Utilities Commission (Commission) which regulates CUC pursuant to Public Law 15-35, as amended. On July 5, 2013, CUC filed a petition and supporting evidence with the Commission to implement non-rate water and wastewater fees and charges, under Rate Case Docket 13-01. These increases, if granted, will become effective **January 9, 2014**, or as otherwise determined by the Commission.

The Commission will conduct a public hearing on **December 9 & 10, 2013** at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Saipan; **December 11, 2013** at the CNMI Superior Court, Tinian at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.; and **December 12, 2013** at the CNMI Superior Court, Rota at 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. to receive evidence, argument, discussion and public comment on the Rate Case. The Commission will later conduct a special business meeting to consider and make decisions regarding matters considered at the public hearing.

CUC is required by statute and a U.S. District Court Stipulated Order to achieve "full cost recovery." This means that CUC's revenues must fully cover the cost of providing service to its customers. CUC's costs include the costs of maintenance, repair, materials and supplies, labor, vehicles, meters and Stipulated Order mandated projects. CUC demonstrates in the Rate Case that it is operating at a substantial deficit, and relies entirely on the revenues from its customers and federal grants. CUC's operating revenues for FY 2012 were \$97.7 million but its operating expenses were \$104 million. This results in an overall operating loss of (\$8,230,994). The proposed fees are critical in order for CUC to achieve and maintain financial health and provide service in compliance with CNMI and federal regulations.

The request to increase non-rate water and wastewater fees is brought because these fees are currently extra costs to CUC which are not included in the base rate. Some customers require excessive services, which are then subsidized by other ratepayers. CUC believes that it is fairer for our customers to pay for the services they actually use, so that our customers who use less service pay less. CUC seeks to adopt a schedule for all non-rate water and wastewater services as follows:

NON-RATE WATER AND WASTEWATER FEES

WATER (W) FEES	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	WASTEWATER (WW) FEES	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
New Tap			New Tap – WW	TMO	TMO
5/8"	\$760.00		Tap Application Fee – WW	-	TMO
3/4"	\$760.00		New Tap Inspection Fee – WW	\$50.00	\$125.00
1"	\$975.00		New Service - WW	TMO	TMO
1 1/2"	\$1,400.00		Disconnect Fee – WW	-	\$40.00
2"	\$1,585.00		WW Tipping Fees	-	\$80.00
New Service Connection - Water			Backflow Device Inspection Fee	-	\$100.00
5/8"	\$135.00	\$95.00	FOG Installation Inspection Fee	-	\$170.00
3/4"	\$135.00	\$95.00	FOG Biannual Inspection Fee	-	\$60.00
1"	\$135.00	\$95.00	FOG Remediation Fee	-	\$110.00
1 1/2"	\$135.00	\$95.00			
2"	\$135.00	\$170.00			
New Service Connection - After Hours			ADMINISTRATIVE FEES		
5/8"	\$135.00	\$160.00	Late Charge	1% of Past Due	10% of Past Due
3/4"	\$135.00	\$160.00	NSF Check Charge	\$25.00	\$40.00
1"	\$135.00	\$160.00	Security Deposit - W/WW - Residential	Varies	Varies
1 1/2"	\$135.00	\$160.00	Security Deposit - W/WW - Non-Residential	Varies	Varies
2"	\$135.00	\$300.00			
Inspection Fee – W	\$40.00	\$210.00	Labor Fees - Regular Business Hours		
Investigation Fee – W	-		Clerical/Specialist	-	\$17.00
Meter Test Fee – W	\$95.00		Technical/Field	-	\$26.00
Disconnect Notice	\$15.00		Professional	-	\$45.00
Disconnect Fee	\$45.00		Labor Fees - After Hours		
Reconnect - Non-Residential	\$150.00	\$80.00	Clerical/Specialist	-	\$26.00
Unauthorized Connection – W	-		Technical/Field	-	\$38.00
Hydrant Fees – Authorized	\$100.00		Professional	-	\$67.00
Hydrant Fees – Unauthorized Usage	\$270.00		After Hours Call Out - Non-Emergency		
Standpipe Setup Fee	\$6.00		Vehicle Fees		
Lab Service Fees			Pick-Up Truck	\$15/hr	\$115/day
BOD	\$65.00	\$65.00	Bucket Truck	\$50/hr	\$225/day
PH	\$20.00	\$20.00	Boom Truck	\$50/hr	\$95/hr
TSS	\$45.00	\$45.00	Auger	\$75/hr	\$120/hr
Fecal Coliform	\$50.00	\$50.00	Materials	Materials +25%	Materials +25%
Private Property Leak Detection and Repair	TMO	\$100.00			

The Rate Case filing, in its entirety, is available on CUC's website at: <http://www.cucgov.org>. Please click on the link/button on the Home Page titled "Regulatory Matters/Public Utilities Commission" to view or download the documents. A written copy of all petition materials will also be available for inspection at the following places: CUC Admin Office: Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building; CUC Tinian Office; CUC Rota Office



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Guam Food Guy to judge chef competition

Ken Stewart, more popularly known as the Guam Food Guy, will serve as one of the judges in the 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition on Nov. 30 at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan, according to organizer Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation.

Stewart has been writing restaurant reviews for 12 years, which can be read on www.guamdiner.com and he may also be heard on the radio at K-57's *The Big Show* with Travis Coffman.

He has written about restaurants and dining in Guam,

Saipan, Palau, Bali, Okinawa, Hong Kong, Hawaii, and the continental United States.

Stewart is director of the Micronesia Chef's Association and general manager for Tools of the Trade, a supplier of products for the hospitality and healthcare industries.

Aside from Stewart, there will also be judges from Saipan for the competition.

Five on-island chefs will showcase their culinary skills on Nov. 30 from 2pm to 4pm at the Charley's Cabaret of the San Antonio landmark.

The 3rd Annual Saipan's

Next Top Chef Competition is being sponsored by a slew of companies: Delta Air Lines, Joeten Group of Companies, PIC Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, McDonald's Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Tanapag Mobil, 360 Restaurant, I Love Saipan, Asiana Airlines, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. Micronesia, Wushin Corp., Kagman High School Culinary Students, Faith Works Church, 360 Church, Youth With A Mission, *Marianas Variety*, and the *Saipan Tribune*.

The 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition

raises funds for the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation's outreach projects in the CNMI, Kenya, the Philippines, and Bangladesh.

For tickets to the 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition, call Rose Smith at 483-0162, Chemere McField at 789-8211, or Vicky Benavente at 483-8425. Tickets may also be purchased at the Empty Vessel Ministry office in Gualo Rai, the EVMF booth at the Garapan Street Market, and at the PIC Saipan front desk for \$15 per person. (*Mark Rabago*)



STORY SHARING TRAINING

The CNMI Motheread/Fatherread Family Literacy Program holds a Story Sharing Training at Café at the Park on Nov. 9, 2013. Facilitators for the event were Bryan Manabat and Angelina Yobech. Teacheread Storysharing Training would like to extend a special thank you to the gracious staff and management of Café at the Park for hosting the November 2013 training session. CNMI Motheread Program is a literacy program of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Red Cross health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross has rescheduled its Preparedness Health & Safety training to the following date:

- Thurs., Nov. 14 at 4:30pm: Adult CPR/AED Blended Learning

- Thurs., Nov. 14 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Blended Learning courses involve online courses with in-person skills exam and require at least 48-hour preregistration. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459 or visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class. (ARC)

Spearfishing prohibited on Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—All forms of spearfishing along all shorelines and near shore waters on Naval Base Guam are prohibited effective immediately due to a change in policy. This policy will ensure the protection of service members, military families, base personnel and patrons.

Permitted fishing techniques in designated areas only include hook-and-line fishing from shoreline or boat, and cast netting from shore-

lines. Fishing is permitted in outer Apra Harbor and at Clipper Cove on NBG. (*PR*)

Kagman High schedules

Kagman High School parents and/ guardians are being advised that Nov. 15, 2013 is Report Card Day. Reports will be given to students to take home on that day. Please ask your child how they did! To schedule a meeting with your child's teacher, call 237-3840.

Dates to remember:

- Nov. 28-29: No classes, Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 9: No classes, Constitution Day
- Dec. 18, 2013 is Joint progress report (time and location TBA)
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3: No classes, Christmas break

For more information, call KHS main office at 237-3840. (*PR*)

CCA board meeting on Nov. 19

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050. (*MHS*)

or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (*CCA*)

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 13, from 7pm to 1am
- Nov. 14, from 4am to 7am and 7pm 11:55pm
- Nov. 15, from 4am to 7am and 9am to 5pm

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (*PR*)

MHS to issue report cards for Q1

To all parents and legal guardians of the Mighty Dolphins of Marianas High School: We will be distributing the 1st Quarter Report Card to the students on Friday, Nov. 15, 2013. There will be regular class schedule on that day, which means students will be released at 3pm.

If you have any questions, call the Main Office at 237-3206/5. (*MHS*)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Nov. 21

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (*CCA*)

John Gonzales LIVE today

John Gonzales LIVE will be tackling the proposed U.S. militarization of Pagan Island today, Nov. 13, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on MCV Channel 14. Guests will be officers of the Northern Marianas Descent Corp., a non-profit group advocating for the indigenous rights and preservation of the cultural homeland of Northern Marianas descendants. Viewers can participate by calling (287-4230), texting (285-META) (6382), OR e-mailing (johngonzaleslive@gmail.com).

The program will be replayed on Nov. 18 and 19, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on MCV Channel 14. John Gonzales LIVE is also streamed on Betelnut Radio (www.betelnutradio.com). (*PR*)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 11, 2005

Burglars hit Capital Hill post office

The U.S. Postal Service allayed fears yesterday that some absentee ballots might have been stolen during a recent break-in at the Capital Hill post office. According to a USPS employee, all absentee ballots were being kept secured in the main postal office in Chalan Kanoa. The Capital Hill does not house any election returns, he added. The Commonwealth Election Commission will retrieve the absentee ballots from the postal office on Nov. 19. Citing information from Guam-based U.S. postal inspector Craig Hales, *Saipan Tribune* columnist Ruth Tighe said the burglary occurred between the time the post office closed on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 26, and the time it opened on Thursday morning, Oct. 27.

NMI marks birthday of US Marine Corps

Government officials, veterans, Department of Public Safety personnel, Marines in active duty and retirees, among others, commemorated the founding anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps yesterday with a flag raising ceremony at the American Memorial Park Court of Honor. The ceremony started at 8am with four red U.S. Marine Corps flags raised at half-staff alongside the national colors. Military Veterans Affairs Office executive officer Ruth Coleman said the CNMI held the ceremony to recognize the U.S. Marine Corps' birthday. The flags were flown for 24 hours. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3457, Marine Corps member on active duty Donald Mendiola, retirees Gregory Castro and Dustin Pangelinan, veterans Woody Woodruff, Albert Harris, and DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau commander Edward Manalili attended the ceremony.

November 11, 2006

Lower bar sought for PUC

A proposed legislation to lower qualifications for officials of the newly created Public Utilities Commission is now pending in the House of Representatives. Rep. Ray Yumul, along with two other lawmakers, has introduced House Bill 15-191, which seeks to lessen requirements for appointees to the utilities commission. Currently, the PUC law requires that the five-member commission include at least one commissioner who has training in the telephone, water and sewer utilities management; at least one with managerial or engineering experience in the field of power generation; at least one with telephone or cable television experience; and at least one who is a certified public accountant.

Crime Stoppers founder impressed with local program, media support

Greg MacAleese, founder of the highly successful citizen-police Crime Stoppers Program, is impressed with the progress of NMI's Crime Stoppers Program. "The program here is now well established. It's been going on here for 17 years and they've got an excellent board of directors," the 59-year-old MacAleese told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview Thursday at the multi-purpose center in Susupe where he conducted an orientation before law enforcers from different local agencies. MacAleese also hailed NMI Crime Stoppers coordinator Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. whom he described as "a very good coordinator for the program."

November 11, 2007

Benedetto: New labor law will have damaging effect

Federal Ombudsman Jim Benedetto yesterday expressed concern over some sections in the new labor reform law that, according to him, will have damaging effects on alien workers. In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Benedetto said he is disappointed that the Legislature disagreed with him on some of his concerns relating to the bill but he emphasized that he respects the legislators' decision to do what they think is best.

DPS to intensify patrols for this holiday season

The Department of Public Safety will intensify its law enforcement patrols this holiday season to prevent alcohol-related vehicular crashes. DPS spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said that beginning Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22, the department will increase patrols targeting impaired drivers and conduct sobriety checkpoints. Ogumoro said DPS will also be conducting public education awareness about the dangers of drunk driving. The DPS leadership recently appointed Sgt. Anthony Macaranas as the new traffic commander.

Joeten Ace Hardware to open Tinian branch tomorrow

Joeten Ace Hardware will open the doors to a spanking new branch on Tinian tomorrow with CNMI and island officials invited to the ribbon cutting.

Priscilla Tenorio, Joeten Ace Hardware president, said the company's newest outlet is located along Broadway in Marpo and has 4,800 square feet of retail space.

She said the opening of the store has long been awaited by island residents who have been pining for a global brand hardware outlet to land on its shores.

"We feel the people of Tinian are underserved and we have many requests from the Tinian community to open a store. We're excited to play a role in the continued growth of Tinian," she said.

Joeten Ace Hardware-Tinian will be similar to its sister stores on Saipan, save for a little twist.

"Basically it will be the same with the other stores on Saipan. However, we added a small grocery section to our merchandise mix," Tenorio said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

She said the construction of the Tinian branch took eight months to complete.

"It took longer to construct than our original plan and target date of completion. This is due to the delays in shipments of materials because of weather conditions and availability of vessels to bring cargoes to

United Airlines supports relief efforts for PH

CHICAGO—United Airlines will be partnering with AmeriCares, American Red Cross, and Operation USA in their efforts to provide aid to those affected by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

The United Airlines Foundation will donate up to \$50,000 to match donations to partner organizations from United customers and employees. The airline will also provide a one-time mileage bonus to MileagePlus members who donate. United will contribute up to 5 million miles for this initiative.

MileagePlus members who give between \$50-\$99 will receive 250 bonus miles, those who contribute \$100-\$249 will receive 500 bonus miles, and members who donate more than \$250 will receive 1,000 miles.

For more information and to make a donation, customers and employees may visit the company's fundraising page at www.crowdrise.com/unitedrelief.

"Our hearts go out to the people in the Philippines as they recover from this devastation," said Mark Anderson, United's senior vice president of Corporate and Government Affairs. "In difficult times like these, our employees and customers always show their generosity." (PR)

Tinian," she said.

While she declined to cite the exact cost of the branch's construction, she, however, said that Joeten Ace Hardware

plunked down more than a million dollars in investment for its Tinian outlet, which will be initially manned by a staff of eight.

Aside from Gov. Eloy S. Inos

and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofscheider, who is from Tinian, Joeten Ace Hardware has also invited senators, representatives, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela

Cruz, and other VIPs to grace the branch opening.

Ace Hardware Corp., founded in the 1920s, is a world-leading hardware retailer

based in Oak Brook, Illinois. It has 4,600 stores across over 60 countries and does over \$3 billion in retail hardware sales annually. (Mark Rabago)



2013 Joeten Memorial GOLF CLASSIC



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1st Place	Adam Lee
2nd Place	Ned Norita
3rd Place	Ricardo Terlaje Jr.
MEN'S B Flight	
1st Place	Feng Chun Jin
2nd Place	Jin Shi Feng
3rd Place	Anthony Benavente Jr.
MEN'S C Flight	
1st Place	Luis Tudela
2nd Place	Tiberius Mocanu
3rd Place	Tom Terlaje
SENIOR'S Flight	
1st Place	Frank Shimizu
2nd Place	Eli Buenaventura
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Opinion

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The worst

From single digits the day after, to about 1,200 the following day, to "at least 10,000 in one city alone" Sunday: The jump in the official estimates of the total number of persons feared dead because of Typhoon Haiyan has been completely unnerving. By all accounts, Haiyan is now considered the most destructive natural calamity ever in the country's history.

The worst is yet to come: digging out the thousands of bodies from under debris and inside waterlogged homes. It would be impossible to imagine the suffering of the survivors, as they search for their missing kin and find family and friends among the many dead.

The fact that Tacloban was among the hardest hit does not necessarily mean that the city was inadequately prepared; it could also mean that, given the force of the typhoon and the strength and speed of the storm surges, no preparation could have been sufficient.

For now and the next several days, the main task is to quickly create the conditions that will allow government, private and international donor resources to effect rescue and relief operations in all affected areas, not just Tacloban.

It is good to note that the airport in Tacloban, with its control tower and terminal severely damaged, has managed to receive an almost regular schedule of airlifts; that the road traffic from Luzon to Leyte's capital has reopened; that police Special Action Forces have been deployed to the city to prevent more looting. But so much more needs to be done.

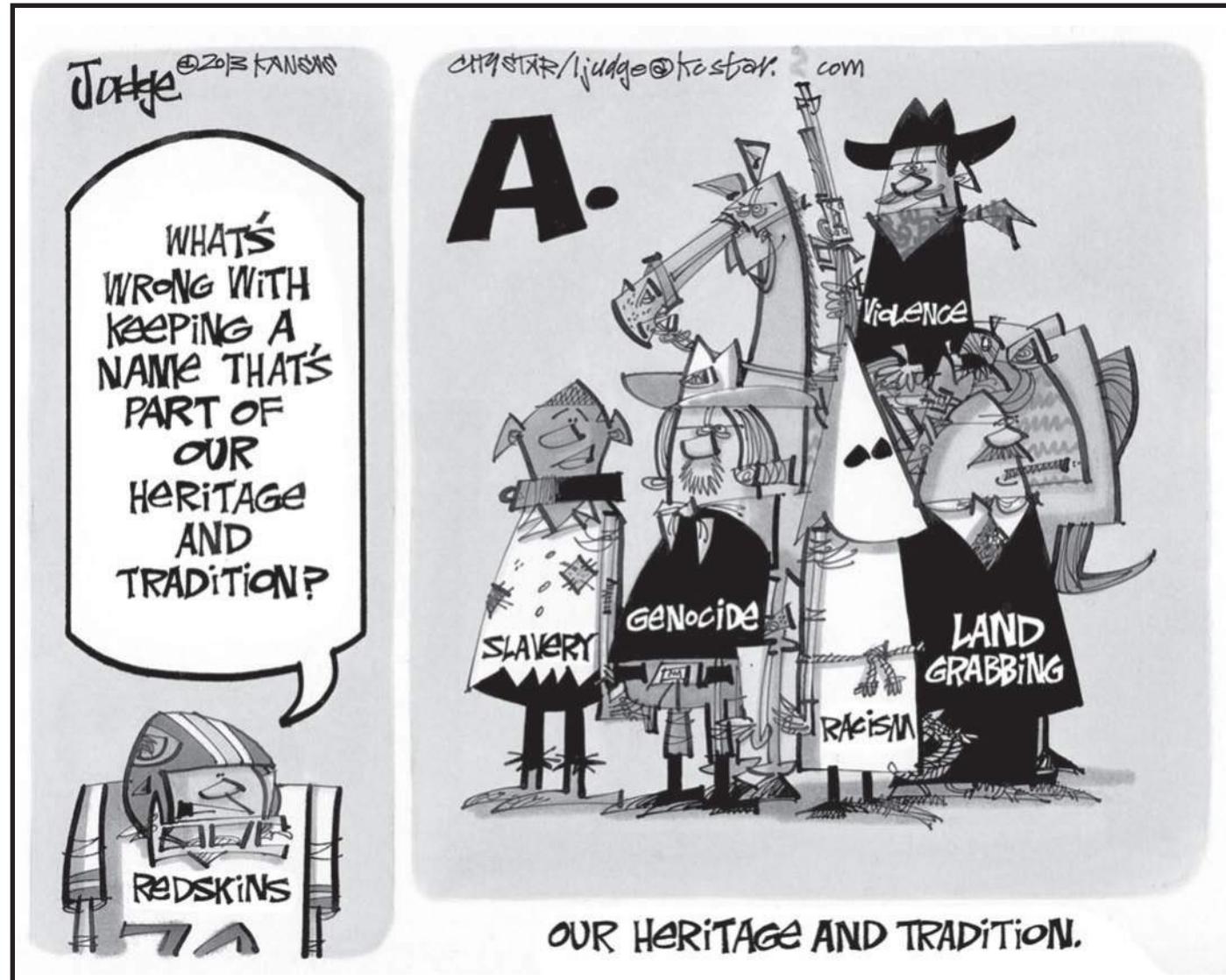
One example, out of many. The tourist town of Coron, in Palawan, the last landmass Haiyan barrelled through on its harrowing way to the South China Sea, suffered massively; according to its mayor, as much as three-fourths of the municipality's houses and buildings sustained considerable damage, while the airport's control tower and terminal were destroyed. Thousands of evacuees and foreign visitors are stranded, with the town's source of potable water fast running out.

The breakdown in communications, total in some instances, has deepened the typhoon-induced shock; not knowing whether family and friends have even survived Yolanda is a source of trauma in itself.

Aside from the many things that need to be done, then, we would like to emphasize the vital importance of rebuilding communication lines. We add our voice to those appealing to the country's telecommunications companies to get their cell sites in the affected areas operating once again.

It is good to note that the Department of Social Welfare and Development has set up a satellite Internet facility in Tacloban, to allow dazed residents to comfort anxious relatives elsewhere in the country or abroad. But that's just in one city; about a million people in several provinces suffer the same fate.

Going forward, it seems clear that we need to build additional redundancy into our communications system, by including more robust communications facilities. But for now, we need to get those signal bars up and running.



In the Dominican Republic, suddenly stateless

By MARK KURLANSKY, JULIA ALVAREZ, EDWIDGE DANTICAT and JUNOT DIAZ
LOS ANGELES TIMES

A recent ruling by the Constitutional Court in the Dominican Republic to strip away the citizenship of several generations of Dominicans leaves no doubt that the nation has not left its history of abuse and racism behind.

According to the decision, Dominicans born after 1929 to parents who are not of Dominican ancestry are to have their citizenship revoked. The ruling affects an estimated 250,000 Dominican people of Haitian descent, including many who have had no personal connection with Haiti for several generations.

These Dominican citizens are suddenly stateless and without rights simply because of their Haitian ancestry. Dominican animosity and racial hatred of Haitians dates back to at least 1822, when the Haitian army invaded the Dominican Republic, liberated the slaves and encouraged free blacks from the United States to settle there to make Dominicans "blacker." Feb. 27, Dominican Independence Day, does not celebrate independence from Spain but independence from Haiti in 1844. On that day a nation that banned slavery and welcomed a diverse population was founded, but the people have been arguing about that diversity ever since.

In 1912, the Dominican government passed laws restricting the number of black-skinned people who could enter the country, but the sugar companies ignored the restrictions. Unscrupulous elite Dominicans looking for cheap labor for the mills brought in most of the Haitians. Those early laborers were kept in barracks lacking basic amenities and were deprived of all civil rights. It is mostly their offspring who are affected by the new ruling.

That racism against Haitians continued. Under dictator Rafael Trujillo, an estimated 20,000 Haitians were massacred over five days in October 1937—to "cleanse" the border, according to the government. In 1983, President Joaquin Balaguer published the book "La Isla al Reves" ("The Island in Reverse"), claiming that the Haitians were trying to invade and that their secret weapon was "biological." According to Balaguer, Haitians "multiply with a rapidity that is almost comparable to that of a vegetable species."

In 1996, when Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, a popular Dominican politician with black skin and African features, ran for president, Balaguer insisted that Pena Gomez was an undercover Haitian spy with a secret plan to turn the Dominican Republic over to Haiti.

One of the important lessons of the Nazi Holocaust is that the first step toward genocide is to strip a people of their right to citizenship. What will happen now to these quarter of a million people who will be stateless? Will they retreat into hiding, submit to the old condi-

tions of near-slavery in Dominican agro-industry or desperately attempt escape on boats, as reports from Puerto Rico suggest they are already doing?

The ruling will make it challenging for them just to live—to study, to work, to legally marry, to register their children, to open bank accounts—and even to leave the country that now rejects them, because they cannot obtain or renew their passports.

To the Dominican government, this is not such a great crisis. After all, it claims, the Haitian Constitution grants Haitian citizenship to anyone anywhere in the world who has Haitian parents. Even if this were automatic, which it is not, it would be like saying that there would be nothing wrong with stripping Jews of U.S. citizenship because they have the right to Israeli citizenship.

But to many Dominicans, this is a grave crisis, the reinstating of the old racism that many have fought against. To Dominican Americans, it is an absurdity. As Edward Paulino, a history professor at John Jay College in New York, said, "I, a Dominican American born and bred in the U.S., have a right to Dominican citizenship, but those born and raised in DR of Haitian parents do not."

The court's action violates standards of international law and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which clearly state that people cannot be stripped of citizenship. Although the Constitutional Court cited a 2010 amendment on citizenship in its 38th Constitution in making the ruling, the decision violates Title II, Chapter 1, Article 38 of that same Constitution, which says all Dominicans are entitled to the same rights regardless of gender, religion, skin color or national origin.

How should the world react? Is it such a big thing—the life, liberty and pursuit of happiness of a few hundred thousand Dominicans? Should Western nations, starting with the United States, conduct business-as-usual with a country that commits such crimes against human rights? Would this be a suitable place to spend the family vacation, now that tourism has become a major Dominican economic activity?

Isn't it time that the world tells the Dominican government that stripping people of their rights based on their ethnic background, setting up part of the citizenry for abuse and establishing an apartheid state is unacceptable? Is a nation building weapons of mass destruction or perhaps using chemical weapons on its own people the only line we will defend? Don't we also need to recognize, as we learned in Germany, the Balkans and South Africa, that we cannot accept institutionalized racism?

Mark Kurlansky, Julia Alvarez, Edwidge Danticat and Junot Diaz are authors. Alvarez and Diaz are Dominican American; Danticat is Haitian American. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Listening: Worth a leader's time

"A ship that sails backwards never sees the sunrise."

More so than ever before, elected officials must make it a point to leave their offices so they could join their people in the villages for one-on-one conversations. It is at this level where you hear and see the sentiment of the simple folks you represent upstairs about the hardship they have to endure in a listless economy. It's an opportunity to come full square with "reality check." Senseless politics won't do and "we the people" know it by heart.

You could easily detect hopelessness in their facial or vocal expressions as a result of joblessness, or hardship as a result of underemployment, unemployment, spikes in the cost of goods, and a prohibitively unaffordable utility rates.

This dire condition must change so we don't continue sailing our ship backwards, incapable of seeing the sunrise out east.

As families weather the devastating effects of costly utility rates, is there hope up ahead for some sense of relief, i.e., affordable utility rates or are there more surprises ahead from CUC for much higher monthly utilities? If you say "none," you're correct.

The answer to lower power rates is the immediate privatization of CUC to enable a company like Green Global Solutions to move in with fresh funds to fix the mess. In doing so, it could guarantee your power bills won't increase at all. Furthermore, it's a pathway to opening up the CNMI for more significant investments too.

The current system is destined to fail as a result of incompetence. This incompetence translates into CUC management passing its lack of foresight, planning, and expertise to consumers. It's the only way it could keep afloat—by suffocating consumers with more of its incompetence. It's the only way to sustain self-preservation so the big guns keep their cushy jobs. But then it comes at our expense!

Stop the bleeding now!

The hardship that all must endure as a result of piecemeal approaches to power delivery loaded with horrendous rates by CUC has got to stop. We have to stop the bleeding now!

Resilience

By CONRADO DE QUIROS

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

I've more affinity with the south than the north and was horrified by what happened to Tacloban. I like the place, even if it is Imelda Marcos' favorite city, and even if my stomach protests its liberal supply of *tuba*. I can understand Waray reasonably well even if I can't speak it. I used to go there quite frequently for meetings in the 1990s, living in a hotel beside the sea, lapping up its languorous whisperings at night, reveling in its idyllic sereness.

I can feel the holy terror that filled the hearts of its residents late last week.

More than 10,000 dead is a staggering amount. But it's the individual pictures that tear your heart out: A woman keening over the body of her boy in a chapel, rigid bodies caked in mud lying on the streets, arms and legs sticking out of their covers, small children sitting outside their shanty or what is left of it, staring dully at a blank sky and a blander future. Losses of this magnitude are always catastrophic any time they happen, but more so when they happen at the threshold of a season given to joy and thanksgiving. Indeed, when they happen to those who had so little to begin with.

One is tempted to say that disasters are democratic in that they fall on both the rich and the poor. But that isn't always true. Supertyphoons and superearthquakes tend to ravage the poor more than the rich: They have flimsier roofs, they do not have the means to move to higher ground, and the higher ground they move on to, such as churches and makeshift shelters, are just as brittle as the ones they left behind.

You are poor, you are far more vulnerable. You are bereft, you will be more bereft.

That thought rankles in your brain at the spectacle of our recently ravaged. We remain, despite our vaunted growth, a country mired in poverty. A hurricane howls over New York, floods overrun Central Europe and turn Prague and neighboring cities into a gigantic pool, a killer earthquake shakes buildings in Tokyo, but you do not see bodies lined up in the streets, children huddled against a gray sky, a sea of faces lost and despairing. You see those scenes in Tacloban, and before that in Ormoc, Cagayan de Oro, and Metro Manila itself, and you are reminded how impoverished we are and how fraiser our lives are made by it.

To this day, they still remember the devastation wrought by Hurricane "Sandy" and the score or so dead it left behind. A few months from now, only their kin and friends will remember the thousands

Each infraction of incompetence committed by CUC instantly turns the blame over to legislators who aren't necessarily equipped with proper information to determine what must have gone wrong. Nonetheless, CUC spikes rates every other full moon to pay its so-called obligations.

"We the people" can make a difference. Let's fervently encourage our representatives and senators to support the adoption of a joint resolution privatizing CUC and grant the project to Green Globe Solutions. It should begin the path toward affordable utility rates far lower than what we pay for today.

The company is ready to bring in wind turbine power generation that would be far cheaper than what you're paying today. If you're getting nailed for \$.44 per kilowatt-hour today, your new rate won't be more than \$.29 per kilowatt-hour. If I may reiterate: the goal to lower utility rates is definitely achievable beginning with a legislative-adopted joint resolution privatizing CUC and granting the project to Green Globe Solution.

This path would be a plus to all consumers who are now "de facto" employees of CUC. You won't be cringing paying for utilities if we change the system as recommended herein. And it would trigger revival of the local economy beyond our wildest imaginings.

The 25-percent cut in pension pay need not be the case if the CNMI embraces the "wealth and jobs creation" I've presented this week. Eventually, we'd all be happy campers once more.

If the boom years of the mid-'80s were good—when we had millions upon millions of dollars—what's in store in this plan is far greater for purposes of instilling economic investments and stability for years to come. Hope our policymakers are listening in the interest of "we the people."

The 99-year land lease

The effort to extend the term of land leases from 40 to 99 years is good sound bite but I find difficulty understanding the purported goal. Is it to lure more investments? Will it in fact be a plus in the blind search for more investments? Is there a study that answers these concerns?

dead in the Visayas in the wake of Supertyphoon "Yolanda." They will be too busy taking care of the living. They will have become collateral damage in the protracted war that is their lives.

It's almost obscene to call this resilience. It's almost profane to call us resilient. That is what John Kerry does. "Your spirit is strong," he says by way of comfort, by way of encouragement, by way of solidarity. Maybe he means well, though I don't know that the stricken will find his words exceptionally comforting, encouraging, and transcendent. The rest of us will probably just say, "Your credit is good, but we need cash." Or wonder why he couldn't just put it the way Erik Spoelstra did: "We extend our condolences to the victims of Supertyphoon Haiyan. We will keep them in our thoughts and prayers."

In the past, the bishops, who were never themselves victims, also used to use the word "resilience" each time this country was flattened by earthquakes, landslides, storms, torrential rains, floods, and others—well, the insurance companies call them "acts of God." The Filipino spirit is resilient, they said, it will survive, it will prevail. Well, there are other words for resilient. Those are vulnerable, frail, insignificant, negligible, forgettable, dismissible, miserable, not really there. Or indeed passivity, acceptance, resignation, getting by, making do, moving on.

What you call resilient, we call forced to good.

Some things we can't do anything about. Acts of God are one of those, though we can always add our voices, however teeny-weeny, to calling on Kerry's favorite country to do something about its carbon emissions that are causing the winds to howl and the earth to heave. And we can always, like Dylan Thomas, rage against the dying of the light, even if only as a matter of attitude, even if only as a metaphysical stance. That is what a strong spirit is, a rebellious one.

Other things we can do something about. We can always get angry at the terms of our existence. We can always burn and rave at our vulnerability, at our powerlessness, at our poverty. We can always be as outraged about our deprivation as we have been of late about our corruption. We can always be oppressed by our lot as we have been of late about their plots. We can always refuse to be humored and called resilient, we can always refuse to have our grief waved away by faint comfort, we can always say, "Leave us be, we are hurt and we are angry."

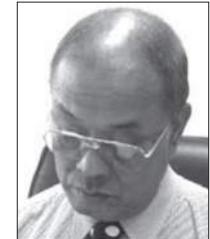
Never mind resilient, we can do with just being less helpless.

Conrado de Quiros is a regular columnist for the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Isn't the alternative the restoration of our land tenure system? Its reversion also restores full landownership and leaves final disposition to the landowner. Moreover, there's a need to protect landowners by way of statutory requirement for re-valuation of land every 25 years with benefits accruing to the landowner for cost of living.

In other words, throughout the first 25 years the value of land would have gone up more than the original lease amount. Therefore, the owner must be able to benefit from the new valuation on a monetary basis. Business may have thrived throughout the period and would stick around for another 25 years. Herein the lessor and lessee could amicably agree on some form of COLA. Everybody's a winner.

Public land valuation must also change. It's ludicrous to appraise a developed public land as raw land. Whoever came up with this regressive policy against the indigenous people deserves cranial evaluation. Are you sure it is perfectly within common decency to lease the Laulau Bay public land at \$3 per square meter? Isn't the land already developed?

Wasn't our land used for collateral by Laulau Bay to secure a \$2 million loan to furnish its hotel? So where's real time benefits for indigenous landowners? Didn't he also forgive the \$30K appraisal due DPL? Are Fitial and Inos prepared to answer these questions including real time benefits for indigenous landowners when both ensured KUMHO received a \$26-million tax break using the "qualifying certificate?"

Where's the benefit due the indigenous people when sweetheart deals are given to cherry-picked investors—basically free public land lease and a ridiculously huge tax breaks—so what's the purpose of investment if it doesn't help the local economy? Some folks are so smart but dumb and equally corrupt!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to our leaders

Ladies and gentlemen: As a part owner of those public land leases, I am opposing Mr. Pete Tenorio's approach in extending those public land leases. Is this really our best option? While I agree that we should take care of our investors, we should be mindful also that this government is broke and cannot be generous anymore. We should stop this nonsense of giving from the goodness of our heart because it's not yours to give away. It's enough with the Mañagaha scam.

Certainly we all have to agree that after the end of those public land leases, the improvements on the premises becomes the property of DPL and it gives us the opportunity to make more. I think the best approach is to appraise the property and allow them the option of first refusal to buy it back. Even this approach is a disadvantage because we could make more if it is an open bid. Remember that our governor and Rep. Ralph Demapan just came back with boatloads of investors with their billion dollars. I am pretty sure they'll be interested to invest in any of these properties. This is no different than those private land leases that will soon expire...those landlords will have a mansion for a home. There are many ways to skin a cat and this has got to be the worst one. Truthfully, this stinks that it might pollute the Legislature. I am afraid that if this is entertained and consummated, there will be a few guys that will retire a rich man.

I thought that, after the Coral Ocean Point and our escapee governor with his \$190 million secretive CUC deal, we should be smart by now but I guess not! I think Uncle Benjamin Franklin (\$100 bill) is just too much to ignore. Let's end the corruption because the people are suffering.

Edward K. Peter

Garapan, Saipan

Erratum

In my letter to the editor titled "True lies" published in the *Saipan Tribune* on Nov. 11, 2013, I wrote, "I read with interest the letter of Mr. Juan I. Taisague's letter titled "Irresponsible government" published in the *Saipan Tribune* on Nov. 8, 2013." It was actually Mr. Jesus I. Taisague whom I was referring to. My apologies!

Vince G. Cabrera

Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

▲87° ▾77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▾77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▾77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▾77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▾78
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▾77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▾75
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▾78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲66 ▾53
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲55 ▾35
Hong Kong	Showers	▲72 ▾68
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▾67
London	Partly Cloudy	▲52 ▾43
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲82 ▾57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85 ▾79
Melbourne	Rain	▲63 ▾49
Miami	Showers	▲83 ▾68
New York	Snow	▲41 ▾27
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲58 ▾45
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲51 ▾38
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲61 ▾48
Rome	Showers	▲71 ▾54
Salem	Showers	▲59 ▾47
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▾53
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲53 ▾37
Tokyo	Sunny	▲55 ▾43
Washington, DC	Showers	▲43 ▾30

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:18 AM	5:45 PM	Today	2:33 PM	2:11 AM
Thursday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM	Thursday	3:16 PM	3:04 AM
Friday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM	Friday	4:00 PM	3:57 AM
Saturday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM	Saturday	4:44 PM	4:50 AM
Sunday	6:21 AM	5:51 PM	Sunday	5:36 PM	5:44 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

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Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

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Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

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Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	1:35pm	2:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	2:40pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:25pm	2, 6 via NRT
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SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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College-awareness activities at NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A series of college-awareness activities and related programs are ongoing at the Northern Marianas College as part of the first-ever proclaimed College Month celebration.

College Month is a CNMI-wide effort with the goal of promoting, encouraging and nurturing a college-going culture in the CNMI. As the lone postsecondary institution in the CNMI, NMC wants to do everything possible to make sure that the dream of attending college is attainable, that it becomes a reality for all students who wish to pursue it.

According to a statement from the college, NMC understands that applying to college and seeking financial support can often be daunting, and it wants to provide as much information and support as possible to help prospective students through this process.

"We want all students in the

CNMI to be thinking of college, whether it be in NMC or off-island, as their next step. The goal of College Month is let everyone know that college is an option and that there are resources and supports available to help them get there," according to the NMC statement.

Several upcoming college and career fairs will provide students and their families with opportunities to learn more about NMC, as well as the application process, financial aid, and others.

NMC's College Access Challenge Grant program staff and ambassadors will coordinate college awareness activities, including classroom visit, Start Smart seminars, and Cash for College workshops.

The college has also declared every Friday in November as "College T-Shirt Day," when all employee and students are encouraged to wear apparel representing the college from which they graduated. The day is designed to foster conversa-

tions among students, faculty, and staff about the college experience.

Several student organizations have also lined up activities to promote a college-going culture. One such group, NMC's Beta Lamda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (an honor society), will team up with an elementary/junior high school to begin early-college awareness discussions. These grade-school students will receive encouragement to pursue higher education and information about college even before high school. They will tour the campus, visit the college's research facilities, and shadow a PTK mentor for the day.

Today, a "Lunch With the Lt. Governor" is slated at the Breakpointe Café on campus.

A "College Hour" for students, staff and faculty is also scheduled Wednesday on campus while its instructional site on Tinian will conduct its "Parent Night." Rota will have its own on Nov. 25.

NMC hosts Movie Night on Tinian Friday

The Northern Marianas College's College Access Challenge Grant program is inviting Tinian residents to attend a Movie Night event this Friday, Nov. 15, at 6:30pm and 9:30pm at the Antonio M. Borja Amphitheatre, Natibu Park.

In addition to featuring the

films *Wolverine* at 6:30pm and *Elysium* at 9:30pm, the pre-movie activities will include a brief presentation about preparing for college (college success, student life, financial aid, and time and money management, etc.).

This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments and

snacks will be sold by vendors. Note that the films are rated PG-13, which means that minors under the age of 13 must be accompanied by parents or guardians.

For more information, contact NMC Tinian coordinator Maria Aguon at 433-0649 or visit www.marianas.edu. (PR)

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Special Coverage



Desperate survivors seek to flee typhoon zone

Typhoon survivors jostle to get a chance to board a C-130 military transport plane Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013, in Tacloban, central Philippines.

By JIM GOMEZ and
TODD PITMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TACLOBAN, Philippines (AP) — Thousands of typhoon survivors swarmed the airport here on Tuesday seeking a flight out, but only a few hundred made it, leaving behind a shattered, rain-lashed city short of food and water and littered with countless bodies.

Just after dawn Tuesday, two Philippine Air Force C-130s arrived at its destroyed airport along with several commercial and private flights. More than

3,000 people who camped out at the building surged onto the tarmac past a broken iron fence to get on the aircraft. Just a dozen soldiers and several police held them back.

Mothers raised their babies high above their heads in the rain, in hopes of being prioritized. One woman in her 30s lay on a stretcher, shaking uncontrollably. Only a small number managed to board.

"I was pleading with the soldiers. I was kneeling and begging because I have diabetes," said Helen Cordial, whose house was destroyed in the storm. "Do they want me to die in this airport? They are stone hearted."

Most residents spent the night under pouring rain wherever they could—in the ruins of destroyed houses, in the open along roadsides and shredded trees. Some slept under tents brought in by the government or relief groups.

Local doctors said they were desperate for medicines. Beside the ruined airport tower, at a small makeshift clinic with shattered windows, army and air force medics said they had treated around 1,000 people since the typhoon for cuts, bruises, lacerations, deep wounds.

"It's overwhelming," said Air Force Capt. Antonio Tamayo. "We need more medicine. We cannot give anti-tetanus vaccine

shots because we have none."

International aid groups and militaries are rushing assistance to the region, but little has arrived. Government officials and police and army officers have all been caught up in the disaster themselves, hampering coordination.

The USS *George Washington* aircraft carrier was expected to arrive off the coast in about two days, according to the Pentagon. A similar sized U.S. ship, and its fleet of helicopters capable of dropping tons of water daily and evacuating wounded, was credited with saving scores of lives after the 2004 Asian tsunami.

The United Nations said in a statement that the \$25 mil-

lion would be used to pay for emergency shelter materials and household items, and for assistance with the provision of emergency health services, safe water supplies and sanitation facilities.

"We have deployed specialist teams, vital logistics support and dispatched critical supplies—but we have to do more and faster," said U.N. humanitarian chief Valerie Amos, who was flying to the country.

Joselito Caimoy, a 42-year-old truck driver, was one of the lucky ones at Tacloban airport. He was able to get his wife, son and 3-year-old daughter on a flight out. They embraced in a tearful goodbye, but Caimoy

stayed behind to guard what's left of his home and property.

"There is no water, no food," he said. "People are just scavenging in the streets. People are asking food from relatives, friends. The devastation is too much ... the malls, the grocery stores have all been looted. They're empty. People are hungry. And they (the authorities) cannot control the people."

The dead, decomposing and stinking, litter the streets or remain trapped in the debris.

At a small naval base, eight swollen corpses—including that of a baby—were submerged in water brought in by the storm. Officers had yet to move them,

See DESPERATE on Next Page

In wrecked chapel, 10 bodies, and a father's pain

By TODD PITMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TACLOBAN, Philippines (AP) — There is no functioning morgue here, so people have been collecting the dead from Typhoon Haiyan and storing them where they can—in this case, St. Michael The Archangel Chapel.

Ten bodies have been placed on wooden pews and across a pale white floor slick with blood, debris and water. One appears to have foamed at the mouth. One has been wrapped in a white sheet, tied to a thick green bamboo pole so that people could carry it, and placed on the floor.

One body is small, and en-

tirely covered in a red blanket.

"This is my son," says Nestor Librando, a red-eyed, 31-year-old carpenter. "He drowned."

Librando had taken refuge in a military compound nearby by the time the typhoon's storm surge poured in Friday morning. For two hours, the water rose around him. He held his 2-year-old son in one arm, his 3-year-old son in the other.

But the torrent proved too strong, and swept the family out of the building. The water rose above Librando's head and he struggled to swim. His younger son slipped from his hands and was immediately pulled under the water.

"I found his body later, be-

hind the house" in the courtyard, sunken in the mud, he says.

"This is the worst thing I've ever seen in my life, the worst thing I could imagine," Librando says. "I brought him to this chapel because there was nowhere else to take him. I wanted Jesus Christ to bless him."

The chapel is close to the Tacloban airport, in an area where the storm felled and shredded a vast bank of trees. The water moved with such force that light poles beside a dirt road are bent to the ground at right angles.

At a lakeshore west of the airport terminal, three bodies lay among the rocks. A man, wearing blue shorts and lying face down. A child with yellowed



The bodies of victims of Typhoon Haiyan lie on wooden pews and on the floor of St. Michael The Archangel Chapel in Tacloban, central Philippines, Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013.

arms grasping skyward. A tiny baby, sprawled on its back.

More bodies lay along a muddy beach nearby. A dead

man in jeans leans forward, his head in the water, his back feet somehow perched frozen above the sand and mud be-

hind. Beside him, a child in a diaper lays partially covered by a palm frond, beside wood, debris and a green crate labeled San Miguel Brewery.

There are survivors here, too, including 22-year-old Junick de la Rea. He says the water swept him and five of his relatives off a rooftop where they had fled, but they all survived by grabbing a bunch of plastic and metal containers that happened to float by.

"Please, can you help me?" de la Rea asks a reporter. "I want you to send a message to a friend of mine," a friend who works for the German Red Cross Union.

His message: "We survived. I want to say we survived. ... We lost everything. But we are still alive—and we need help."

IN THE AFTERMATH OF TYPHOON HAIYAN

Tales of heartbreak, courage; hunger, anarchy

By SUNSHINE DELEON and BARA DEMICK
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MANILA, Philippines—Each story is more heartbreaking than the last, tales of the courage and good fortune it took to survive amid utter destruction, balanced in many cases by the last glimpse or word of a loved one who didn't.

President Benigno Aquino III declared a “state of national calamity” Monday in an effort to speed up aid to islands of the central Philippines, ravaged by a monster typhoon. The death toll climbed slowly to 1,774, but was expected to rise to 10,000 or more as bodies in the cities were collected and counted, and relief teams reached cut-off rural areas.

One aid official estimated that 10 million people were affected by Typhoon Haiyan, and that between 2 million and 3 million of them were homeless.

Survivors took to the roads or looted shops in search of food and water. The main hospital in Tacloban, the principal city on the island of Leyte, was reported to have been crippled by a storm surge. Many people jammed the airport looking for assistance or a way out of the region.

“In the Philippines, we really have no point of reference for a storm like this,” said Joe Curry, country director for Catholic Relief Services. “We’ve had so many typhoons before, but nothing compares to how intense and devastating this is.”

A 44-year-old Tacloban high school teacher told local reporters how she abandoned her dying daughter in their house, which was razed by the storm.

“Ma, just let go. Save yourself,” Bernadette Tenegra quoted her daughter as telling her. “I was holding her, and I kept telling her to hang on. ... But she just gave up.”

Then there was Rogelio Minig, 48, who told his wife to stay home with their 12-year-old son and year-old daughter because he thought it would be safer. But they were trapped by rising floodwaters.

“We found her embracing the children in one arm and grabbing onto the ceiling with the other,” he told the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

Several survivors told of hanging desperately onto posts for hours early Friday as one of the strongest storms on record pushed up water levels.

One of them, 21-year-old Emily Ortega, gave birth to a healthy daughter Monday in a makeshift medical center at the Tacloban airport. Erika Mae Karakot just wanted to get word out to her family that she was still alive.

Residents described their city as in a state of anarchy, with no functioning government and



New-born baby Bea Joy is held as mother Emily Ortega, 21, rests after giving birth at an improvised clinic at Tacloban airport Monday Nov. 11, 2013 in Tacloban city, Leyte province in central Philippines. Bea Joy was named after her grandmother Beatrice, who was missing following the onslaught of typhoon Haiyan. Ortega was in an evacuation center when the storm surge hit and flooded the city. She had to swim to survive before finding safety at the airport.

this storm, called Yolanda in the Philippines.

“We have at least 20 to 26 typhoons a year, especially this time of the year. The storm surge in Tacloban, which is surrounded by water, that was the one thing we were not able to anticipate. ... We never thought the effect would be that big,” said Maj. Gen. Raul Gabriel L. Dimatatac, vice commander of the Philippine air force.

“We’ve been battered over and over again by natural disasters,” said Natasha Reyes, emergency coordinator in the Philippines for the aid group Doctors Without Borders. “So when I hear about people being so desperate, so stunned, so hopeless, it really tells me just how bad this is.”

Days before the typhoon, there had been extensive warnings about its ferocity. Hundreds of thousands of people evacuated or reinforced their homes in preparation. But even emergency shelters in schools and concrete government buildings suffered extensive damage from

the winds and floodwaters.

As aid workers began to reach Tacloban, many worried about what they would find when they finally reached more isolated rural areas.

Curry said it would take days to get aid from the airport into the countryside.

“We haven’t had any direct contact with people who are in these rural areas, who also took a direct hit, and what we’re seeing from the aerial shots is just complete and utter devastation,” he said.

“When you take someone who lives on day-to-day subsistence and you take away their food, they have nothing to eat,” he said. “No. 2, people need clean water.

“Imagine rural areas where people live in small villages, where everything is flattened, and there is debris everywhere,” he said. “People just need something over their heads to give them shade and give them a place to sleep at night. Right now, they probably don’t have that.”

DESPERATE

From Page 14

In Tacloban, residents stripped malls, shops and homes of food, water and consumer goods. Officials said some of the looting smacked of desperation but in other cases people hauled away TVs, refrigerators, Christmas trees and even a treadmill. An Associated Press reporter said he saw about 400 special forces and soldiers patrolling downtown to guard against further chaos.

Amos of the U.N. and Philippines Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario will launch an emergency appeal Tuesday in Manila for aid to help the almost 9.8 million people affected by the biggest typhoon recorded in almost a century, the director of U.N. humanitarian operations said.

John Ging told a press conference at U.N. headquarters in New York that an estimated 660,000 people have been displaced and “it’s estimated now that over 10,000 people perished.”

U.N. agencies and the International Organization for Migration will use the funds to provide emergency food assistance, supply emergency shelter materials and household items, assist with the provision of emergency health services, safe water supplies and sanitation facilities for the most vulnerable.

The funding will also be used for critical protection, nutrition and emergency activities, camp coordination and management, and logistics to enable a coordinated rapid relief response, the U.N. humanitarian office said.

Ging said an immediate priority is to help bury the dead to prevent a public health problem.

The United Nations will work with the government to coordinate the international relief effort, he said.

few police or soldiers to keep order. The mayor of Tacloban, Alfred Romualdez, a nephew of former first lady Imelda Marcos, had to be rescued from his roof.

There were widespread reports of looting, not only of food and drinking water, but televisions and washing machines.

So far, Aquino has resisted calls to place Tacloban and other cities under martial law. But the president did order hundreds of additional law enforcement officials to the area.

“There are local governments that, due to the strength of the storm, broke down because their personnel and officials also became victims,” Aquino said in his address Monday night.

An international relief effort was gearing up, but was a long way from meeting the needs of a region where an estimated 80 percent to 90 percent of the structures had been damaged or destroyed.

Relief efforts so far are concentrated in Tacloban, which has the largest airport in the region. C-130 cargo planes are making regular flights now, but have yet to reach the more far-flung disaster areas.

The U.S. military, which assigned 80 Marines to relief operations Sunday, sent an additional 100 Marines and sailors to the Philippines on Monday. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel also announced that the aircraft carrier *George Washington*, which was on a port visit in Hong Kong, was being dispatched immediately to the Philippine coast along with other warships.

A carrier positioned offshore will potentially give the U.S. the ability to ferry supplies to iso-



Hardest hit

Thousands of people have been affected in the Philippines after one of the most powerful storms ever recorded hit the area.

1. Oriental Mindoro province

Baco, a city of 35,000 was 80 percent under water

2. Cebu province

Some towns suffered up to 90 percent damage

3. Leyte province

Flattened by storm surge; hundreds of people have gathered at airport for food and water, others trying to get a flight out

4. Samar province

Said to be heavily damaged

Authorities said they had evacuated 800,000 people ahead of the typhoon, but many evacuation centers proved to be no protection against the wind and rising water. The Philippine National Red Cross, responsible for warning the region and giving advice, said people were not prepared for a storm surge.

“Imagine America, which was prepared and very rich, still had a lot of challenges at the time of Hurricane Katrina, but what we had was three times more than what they received,” said Gwendolyn Pang, the group’s executive director.

Filipino expatriates in US seek news after typhoon

By GILLIAN FLACCUS and
RAQUEL MARIA DILLON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The last time Armi Go called her 81-year-old mother in the Philippine city of Tacloban, the rain from the approaching typhoon was so loud they could barely hear each other.

Go, a 59-year-old sales clerk in Los Angeles, urged her mother to evacuate, but the elderly woman brushed off Go's concerns and stayed. Now she's missing, along with Go's brother and sister, and thousands of others caught in Friday's devastating typhoon. Since then, Go has been desperately calling any friend or relative she can think of for news of her family—with no luck.

"I was up to 2 o'clock calling," she said. "We don't know, we don't have any news. We are so worried, we don't know if she is alive or dead. We don't even know where she is."

Glenda Hawkins, 52, has been unable to get in touch with any of her 11 siblings who live in Tacloban, the capital of the Philippine province of Leyte, which was one of the hardest hit by the storm. Hawkins, of Richmond, Va., has been in the U.S. for 23 years but keeps in touch with family in the Philippines.

"I'm just scared," she says. "I'm hoping they're alive."

Around the United States, Filipino expatriates like Go scrambled to find relatives trapped thousands of miles away and to send money and supplies into an area where nearly all communication and transportation were at a standstill. In Southern California, home to the largest community of Filipinos outside the Philippines, fundraising efforts from 5K walks to church rummage sales attracted hundreds as word spread about missing loved ones and harrowing tales of survival.

Many worried that their



AP

Josie Kikimen, of Somers Point, NJ, a Filipino who grew up in the Tacloban section of the Philippines, speaks during a meeting to discuss aid for those affected by recent typhoon, at the Jade's Restaurant, in Egg Harbor Township, NJ, Monday Nov. 11, 2013.

homeland would be permanently crippled by the typhoon, which came just weeks after last month's 7.2-magnitude earthquake in Bohol that killed 198 people. The U.S. Census listed more than 322,000 Filipinos in Los Angeles County alone in 2010.

"The county just suffered a one-two punch. The United States can probably weather that kind of devastation, but not the Philippines. It's just a poor country," said Bing de la Vega, who is organizing relief efforts through the nonprofit Philippine Emergency Disaster Relief Organization. "You can't help but get emotional when you see the magnitude of the devastation."

Herbert Cledera of Danbury, Conn., is collecting donations of canned goods, clothes and toiletries at the Philippine store he owns with his wife Karen. His family is from the Bicol region southeast of Manila, where the typhoon brought no more than heavy rain. He says the U.S.-based Filipino community is grieving.

"The typhoon is horrific," says Cledera, who is a former president of the Filipino American Association of Western Connecticut. "Everybody's reaction in here, Filipinos in general, they're very sad about what has happened to their families. They've lost lives, properties. Everybody's just devastated."

Juan Tuason, of McLean, Va., learned his family has survived.

"When I saw the news, I thought back to what I saw there," says Tuason, 43, recalling a 2009 visit to Cebu. "The types of houses people live in, a lot of them are made of coconut trees and scrap board from construction sites. And I'm just thinking there's no way. I wouldn't be surprised if (the typhoon) just leveled everything I remember seeing."

In New Jersey, expats gathered at Fiesta Grill, a Filipino restaurant in Jersey City, to watch a Philippine news channel via satellite.

One woman dabbed her eyes as she took in the devastation. Others boxed up donations of

clothes, shoes and canned food at a direct shipping business to send to typhoon victims.

Adelia Ramos, 64, said she spent several days trying to reach family. She became emotional as she recalled getting in touch with them late Sunday.

"They are now safe, they are back in our province," she said, breathing in sharply and waving away tears. "But, the worries that they had, they couldn't get to our town, they had to walk for seven hours, and sometimes over dead bodies."

A 5K run held Sunday in Van Nuys, north of Los Angeles, raised \$7,000 in four hours, and another, larger, fundraiser was in the works for early December—maybe an invitation-only dinner at a Los Angeles restaurant, de la Vega said.

Churches were also rushing to get donations together. The Filipino Disciples Christian Church in Los Angeles raised \$400 over the weekend between an impromptu rummage sale and a special offering at Sunday's service. The 60-member

but the water rose so quickly she could not open the door to escape. "We found her embracing the children in one arm and grabbing on to the ceiling with the other."

As telethons continued nationwide to raise money for victims, residents in the spared capital of Manila said they were keeping a close eye on the destruction to the south.

"It's worrying and devastating, the strongest typhoon ever," said Lourdes Lozada, 50, an electrical engineer. "It will be really hard for them to recover, and it won't be quick, but help is coming from inside and outside the Philippines."

"I've been through many typhoons where roofs are blown off, but nothing this strong," she added. "The scariest part was the storm surge; people didn't expect it would be like a tsunami."

church is continuing to collect goods for another rummage sale next weekend.

"We're hoping to reach at least \$1,000," said pastor Einstein Cabalteja. "We're not really a big church but we're doing our best to help."

In Pasadena, stay-at-home mother Lura Henderson juggled caring for three energetic daughters, ages 7, 5 and 1, and seeking out news of missing relatives.

Henderson, who came to the U.S. 12 years ago, said her parents evacuated two days ahead of the storm with her 16-year-old brother, who has cerebral palsy. They returned to find their home standing, but Henderson's aunt and uncle remain missing. The family heard through word-of-mouth that the elderly couple survived, but they lost their home and were living in a tent on the street.

Henderson is trying to figure out how to organize a search for her relatives and get them supplies and money.

"There's no way to communicate with them. Somebody literally has to go to that island and search for them," she said. "We're trying to do something,

because the news says that people there have had not food for four days now."

Filipino Americans say the impact of the typhoon is especially horrific coming just weeks after a 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit the islands of Cebu and Bohol.

"They're really reeling," says Teresa Tuason, Juan's mother.

"It's just sad because they just suffered from the earthquake and now this," says Rebecca Bautista of Southberry, Conn.

Bautista, 50, grew up in Ormoc, about an hour away from Tacloban. She came to the U.S. when she was 17, in 1980, but her aunt's family still lives in Ormoc. Bautista spoke to them shortly before the typhoon touched down, and other relatives have heard from them since.

"I tried to tell them to go to a shelter but apparently they didn't," Bautista says. "They are just lucky that they survived."

"Everyone's fine," she says. "The house is damaged. Like everyone else there's no roof. They just wait for aid."

"I'm just upset every time I see news about it," Bautista says. "Everyone's suffering." (With USA Today)

FACTS & FIGURES

Some facts about the Philippines and its people

Thousands of people are believed dead after Typhoon Haiyan battered the central Philippines with sustained winds of 235 kph (147 mph) and a storm surge of 6 meters (20 feet). Here are some facts about Philippines:

GEOGRAPHY: More than 7,100 islands are spread over 116,000 square miles—a bit more territory than Arizona—between the far western Pacific and the South China Sea.

DEMOGRAPHICS: It has 100 million people, 12th globally between Mexico and Ethiopia, and they are young. The median Filipino—half older, half younger—is 23 years old, compared with 37 in the United States. More than 80 percent are Catholic, and 5 percent are Muslim. Literacy is high: More than 95 percent of the population age 15 and older can read and write. Average life expectancy at birth is 69 for men and 75 for women.

POLITICS: The former Spanish and later American colony has been independent since July 4, 1946. It is a democracy with an elected president and a Congress comprising a House of Representatives and a Senate. The capital is Manila. The country spent nine years under martial law during the dictatorial reign of President Ferdinand Marcos, who was ousted in the non-violent "People Power" uprising of 1986. The country has struggled with a communist insurgency and a rebellion in the southern region of Mindanao, where Muslims seek autonomy or independence.

TIES TO AMERICA: In 1898, the United States seized the Philippines from Spain in the Spanish-American War. Filipinos rose up in rebellion against American rule from 1899 to 1902. Some of the bloodiest fighting took place on the island of Samar, which was hit hard by Typhoon Haiyan. Since independence, the Philippines has maintained close ties to the United States. More than 1.8 million Philippine-born people live in America. They account for nearly 16 percent of Asian-born American residents, behind only China and India.

ECONOMY: The Philippine economy grew 6.8 percent last year, second to China among major Asian economies, and is expected to match that pace this year. The Philippines last year had a \$431 billion economy, No. 32 in the world, measured by gross domestic product. Its GDP per person was about \$4,500, No. 165 in the world. The economy benefits from money sent home by 4 million to 5 million Filipinos working overseas.

Sources: CIA World Factbook, U.S. State Department, U.S. Census Bureau, International Monetary Fund, World Bank.

Relatives search for typhoon survivors

By CALUM MACLEOD
USA TODAY

Cebu, PHILIPPINES—After two days with zero news from her family since Typhoon Haiyan blasted through their hometown on Leyte Island in the central Philippines, elementary teacher Cherry Gonzaga took action Sunday.

The nearest airport to home remains battered and closed, so she left Manila for Cebu City, then queued for a late-night ferry.

"There's no way to get through to them, and my entire family is there, 15 people," said Gonzaga, 24, as she waited for tickets at a Cebu pier with dozens of other Filipinos desperate to learn whether their relatives are safe.

As many as 10,000 people

may have died when one of the most powerful typhoons ever recorded destroyed entire villages and devastated cities with huge waves and winds of nearly 150 mph.

To curb incidents of looting by hungry residents in hard-hit Tacloban city—Leyte's capital and air hub that is now closed to all but military and relief flights—authorities dispatched more than 100 additional police officers on Sunday.

"A privately owned chopper tried to land in Leyte Sunday but couldn't as the residents rushed it," Frederick Bonjoc, public affairs officer at Cebu airport, said. "They were unafraid of getting hit by the chopper as they are desperate for supplies."

The north part of Cebu Island also suffered extensive damage,

Bonjoc said.

"In my mother's hometown, Bogo city, 70 to 80 percent of houses have had their roofs blown off, but luckily none of my relatives were killed," he said.

The *Philippine Daily Inquirer* reported many family tragedies Sunday in Tacloban. In one case, two men silently pushed a wooden cart bearing the bloated bodies of a woman, her teenage son and her baby though the flooded downtown, the newspaper reported.

The woman, Erlinda Mingig, was a 48-year old fish vendor who was trapped inside her one-story home with her two children.

"I told them to stay in the house because it was safer," said her husband Rogelio, 48,

but the water rose so quickly she could not open the door to escape. "We found her embracing the children in one arm and grabbing on to the ceiling with the other."

As telethons continued nationwide to raise money for victims, residents in the spared capital of Manila said they were keeping a close eye on the destruction to the south.

"It's worrying and devastating, the strongest typhoon ever," said Lourdes Lozada, 50, an electrical engineer. "It will be really hard for them to recover, and it won't be quick, but help is coming from inside and outside the Philippines."

"I've been through many typhoons where roofs are blown off, but nothing this strong," she added. "The scariest part was the storm surge; people didn't expect it would be like a tsunami."

Eyes in the sky

» Guam Guardsmen receive certifications to operate unmanned aerial vehicles

By SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA
GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

SPIN BOLDAK, Afghanistan—As Guam Army National Guardsmen continue focusing on their Operation Enduring Freedom mission, they're also enhancing a different skill.

About two dozen Guam Guardsmen will be certified to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle called a Raven after completing a civilian-sponsored training program. Taught by instructors whose company built the surveillance aircraft, the Guam soldiers welcomed the training.

Task Force Guam's operations section picked participants from different companies to learn the Raven. Each Guam soldier must accumulate an X-amount of operational hours that includes hand-launching the plane, which is like throwing something about the weight of a basketball but cost about \$35,000.

Jeremy Phillips, instructor and employee of EnrGies, Inc., is one of a

half-dozen teachers who have taken Guam soldiers under their wings to get them officially certified. The four-pound Raven has a 4.5-foot wingspan and can fly "with an effective operational radius" of about six miles, Phillips explained. The \$35,000 plane is durable and mounted with an advanced-technology video camera, but the entire system—featuring a tracking antenna and data monitor—is about a quarter of a million dollars.

"It's a very advanced weapon system. It's basically used for routine reconnaissance, convoy security or any type of aerial surveillance," Phillips said. "The Guam soldiers are picking this up pretty well. They learn fast. This system prevents soldiers from moving forward into unknown territory. They can easily launch this and see from above. This can save lives."

The training involves completion of a two-week course. Participants spend a few days in class and are then moved to an aerial site for hands-on learning.

They learn how to guide the Raven using a control monitor. Once in the air, the Raven is operated with controls, while another monitor keeps track of the data the Raven's cameras display.

"It's really beneficial for our unit," said Staff Sgt. Frank P. Quenga. "It'll keep soldiers safe. You can get all the info you need from this system. It'll give accurate distance from the door of a building to a road."

The Raven operates in daytime or nighttime, Phillips said. It can deliver infrared imagery as well as laser illumination. It can be launched in several minutes, adding to its dependability. The plane is controlled via a tracking unit while another monitor serves as the eyes of what the Raven sees from above.

Phillips commended the Guam Guardsmen for their active involvement.

"They give the best motivation to learn. It's like this is new to them and their anxious to see the Raven's capabilities," Phillips said. "There's no doubt this is an incredible asset for any unit. It can be used for various situations, but more importantly, it saves lives."

According to Army Technologies (<http://www.army-technology.com>), U.S. allies such as Australia, Italy, Denmark, United Kingdom and Spain use the Raven for their military components.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Spc. Michael A. Franquez of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, holds a Raven, a lightweight unmanned aircraft system, late October during a pre-launch check at Spin Boldak, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Staff Sgt. Richard A. Napolean of Foxtrot Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, launches a Raven, an unmanned aerial vehicle, late October at Spin Boldak, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

Sgt. Cliff A. Tajeron, fire team leader for Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, prepares to launch a Raven, an unmanned aerial vehicle, late October at Spin Boldak, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Members of the Guam Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, participate in a Raven training late October at Spin Boldak, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. Shown: Sgt. Jordan A. Flores, Staff Sgt. Frank P. Quenga, Sgt. Leonard Rabago and Spc. Jared Manibusan.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Staff Sgt. Frank P. Quenga of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, calls out coordinates via a monitor during a pre-launch check of a Raven, an unmanned aerial vehicle, late October at Spin Boldak, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

Free services at NMC's Cash for College on Saturday

The Northern Marianas College is reminding students and members of the community about the free "Cash for College" workshop that will be held this Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013. The event aims to assist students and their parents maximize scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

The free workshop will be held in Building A at the NMC As Terlaje campus. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and 3pm.

At the workshops, participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, CNMI Scholarship, Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, and the TEACH Grant. Workshop participants can also have their financial aid documents notarized and photocopied, all without any charges or fees.

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and

Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC admission application process.

In addition, those who participate in the workshop will qualify to have their NMC application fee and placement test fees waived for the upcoming spring 2014 semester. This waiver represents a savings of up to \$75.

Although not required, it is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid passport, birth certificate, or green card), three official transcripts, signed 2012 1040 tax form (2012 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes), and/or proof of CNMI residency for 2011 and 2012 (for example, CNMI 1040 tax form, employment verification from your employer, official transcripts, voters certification, etc.).

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at (670) 237-6792 or email daisy.propst@marianas.edu, or visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)



NMC

COLLEGE MONTH

Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider greets Northern Marianas College students at the college's cafeteria during a recent lunch meeting. Students were invited to have lunch with the lieutenant governor and ask him questions on a variety of important issues. This event is part of College Month activities.

High Court affirms disturbing-the-peace conviction

The CNMI Supreme Court recently affirmed a conviction for disturbing the peace. The defendant, Joseph M. Inos had appealed the conviction, claiming the Commonwealth's disturbing-the-peace statute was so vague that it was unconstitutional to convict him under it. The High Court disagreed.

Looking first at the words "annoy" and "disturb," the High Court noted that the words had commonly understood meanings. Those meanings were further reinforced by past cases, which showed that in order to be convicted of disturbing the peace a person must go beyond everyday irritations: The person must instead engage in acts they knew or ought to have known

would cause significant annoyance or disturbance to a reasonable person. That includes "loud noise, the threat of violence, repeated and socially inappropriate sexual advances, or other behavior so unreasonably annoying or disturbing as to warrant criminal consequences."

Applying that test to Inos' case, the High Court concluded that the statute gave sufficient notice to Inos that his behavior violated the statute. As a result, the High Court affirmed the conviction.

The Supreme Court's full opinion is *Commonwealth v. Inos*, 2013 MP 14, and can be found at <http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme13.html>. (NMI Judiciary)

Jazz comes to Saipan!

Coffee and Jazz Lounge Bar, located above ABC Store in Garapan, is hosting the jazz band Project Blue every Thursday and Sunday nights, from 7:30pm to 10:30pm.

Project Blue's lineup features Zen on violin, Ryan Cole on drums, Steve Park on saxophone, John Ulrich on guitar, and Christopher Jones on bass. Each band member has experience in jazz performances and other styles of music. Jones has toured extensively in Northern Europe, Korea, Mexico City, New Orleans, West Coast, and

Houston with numerous jazz and rock bands.

The group will feature music from great jazz artists such as Miles Davis, Coltrane, Jobim, Chick Corea, Sting, Frank Zappa, Stan Getz, Lionel Hampton, Wayne Shorter, Cal Tjader, and many other jazz styles.

Project Blue also welcomes you to bring your instrument and "sit in" and play a number or two with them on Sunday evenings!

Jazz and Coffee Lounge Bar will have drink specials when the band is on stage, mainly "blue" drinks. (PR)

UOG CHAMORRO LANGUAGE LECTURE SERIES

Queen of Chamorro music is next speaker

Recent years have seen a decline in the use of the Chamorro language in Guam, except in terms of music. Since World War II, the Chamorro language has continued to thrive through Chamorro music, with Chamorro artists keeping the language alive in a diverse range of genres, from country, to rock, to pop and even to rap. While the language was becoming silent in other parts of life in Guam, Chamorro recording artists were working hard to keep the language as part of our everyday, something we would hear in cars, at parties, in stores.

On Nov. 14, Flora Baza Queen, known as the Queen of Chamorro Music to her fans, will be giving a lecture at the University of Guam as part of its continuing speaker series "The Chamorro Experience *gi Fino' Chamorro*." The lecture will take place at 5:30pm in the CLASS Lecture Hall. The purpose of this lecture series is to share the stories of Chamorros today, in the Chamorro language in order to help preserve its role as an essential part of our island's heritage.

Flora Baza Quan, is best known for her Chamorro lan-

guage hits "Hagu," "Puti Tainobiu" and "Y Chamorro." Prior to becoming a pioneer in the Chamorro music industry, she made history by being the first Chamorro to win an international beauty competition, when she was crowned Miss Asia in 1971. In addition to her musical accomplishments she worked for many years as the executive director for the University of Guam Endowment Program and conducted oral history projects for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Quan will discuss her experi-

ences as a singer and also share the stories behind many of her famous songs. Her lecture is being sponsored by the Office of the President of UOG, the CLASS Dean's Office, and the Chamorro Studies Program.

This event is free and open to the public. A question-and-answer session will take place after the lecture.

After Quan, the final speaker for this series will be Ed Benavente, Chamorro teacher and former Maga'lahi of Nasion Chamoru, who will speak at 5:30pm on Nov. 20. (UOG)



NMC

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Grace Turner gives a presentation on interpersonal communication to Northern Marianas College staff members who serve under the Division of Student Services during a recent professional development training. The training is part of an ongoing initiative to enhance and improve the skills and knowledge of staff members who provide direct services to students. Offices and departments who participated in the training include Counseling Programs and Services, the Financial Aid Office, and Library Programs and Services.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Task Force Guam leaders present photojournalist Ben Bohane, center, with a special award after Bohane recently embedded with the Guam Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment. Shown: Capt. Ronaldo Pascua, chaplain; Maj. Rickey Flores, executive officer; Bohane; Lt. Col Michael Tougher, Task Force Guam commander; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stephen Pangelinan, assistant personnel officer; and Capt. Darrell Fejarang, personnel officer.

Photojournalist's passion focuses on Pacific islanders serving OEF

By SGT. EDWARD SIGUENZA
1-294TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

CAMP PHOENIX, Afghanistan—Benjamin “Ben” Bohane’s strides are long, fitting his 6-foot-3 lanky Australian frame. So when he walks with genetically short-statured Pacific Islanders—as he did as an embedded photojournalist with the Guam Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment throughout October—he immediately established conflict with his military escorts.

“Hey, slow down,” a 5-foot-7 Guam soldier shouts as they prepare to board a plane to Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan’s Kandahar province. “Take smaller steps. The plane’s not going anywhere without us.”

Bohane turns around and notices his 10-foot lead.

“Sorry mate,” he proclaims in his Australian tone. “Size 12 shoes. I was born with big feet.”

For the next three weeks, there really was no slowing down. Bohane’s pace isn’t because of big feet, but of a large heart for Pacific Islanders and an enormous feat to photo-document service members serving Operation Enduring Freedom. He insists not just any soldier, but Pacific Island-born service members.

It’s fitting he fell in with Guam. Close to 600 Guam Guardsmen are in Afghanistan. They occupy all six International Security Assistance Force regions, and Guam itself is an international hub for other islanders. Task Force Guam’s battle roster features Micronesians, Samoans, Palauans, and residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Bohane’s thankful and blessed to find these nationalities under



Photojournalist Ben Bohane, Australian and Vanuatu resident, shares a moment in late October with Afghan Police cadets at Kabul’s Police District IX.

one roof, but he wants more.

“It’s my strong belief everyone in the Pacific Islands is united in some way,” said Bohane, now a resident of Vanuatu in the South Pacific. “Nobody really covers the islands. We live in the most special part of the world. I relate to the islands—the beaches, the trees, the salt water.”

With Guam’s assistance, Bohane ventured to different parts of Afghanistan searching for ALL Pacific Islanders. Things immediately work as he finds a Tahitian with the French Army at North Kaia in Kabul. The soldier is one of just two Tahitians amongst the hundreds of French soldiers in this camp, he says. A few hours later, when boarding that Kandahar flight, a Tongan soldier is part of the ground crew and a New Zealander is traveling on the same flight.

If only things were this easy, Bohane reflects, as he mentions previous treks into Burma, Solomon Islands, and West Papua. The war in Burma was his first photojournalism stint. He was 19 and covered the toughest part

of any war: the rebel side. Same goes true for the West Papua conflict, where Bohane won the hearts of the Papuan rebels who clashed with invading Indonesians. He ate, walked, and dodged bullets with the rebels, who in turn saved his life several times.

“There have been lots of challenges in covering this region, from having to do serious trekking in jungles and mountains, often trying to avoid patrolling armies,” Bohane explained. “There have been dodgy boat trips, hot landings on occupied beaches, and a few near-misses. But on another level, the big challenge is always winning local people’s trust so that I can do the job that needs doing.”

Bohane’s Pacific adventures of war, conflict and religion are documented in his book *Black Islands: Spirit and War in Melanesia* released in September 2013. This black-and-white photography lineage displays about two decades of his work. He presented this book to Lt. Col. Michael Tougher, Task Force Guam commander, who

in turn initiated Bohane into the Omnipotent Order of the 294th Infantry As a True Guardian of the Right, an honor rarely bestowed to non-military.

“It’s just Ben’s ability to blend in as one of us. It’s his life as a Pacific Islander that made it easy for us to understand him, and vice versa,” Tougher said. “He’s welcomed into our home on Guam whenever he wants to come back with us.”

Jump back two paragraphs, or in Bohane’s case, to a forgotten time, to “black-and-white photography.” The antique Leica camera strapped around Bohane’s neck makes a first impression of “You got to be kidding me,” or “Dude, you seriously gotta upgrade” for those initially meeting him. But Bohane defends himself well, letting others know the 35 mm film camera still functions great, has served him for all of his nearly three decades of photography, and has traveled more miles than the average man ever will.

“So, my iPod camera isn’t good enough?” a Guam soldier asks.

Bohane laughs and responds, “If it’s good enough for you, stick with it.”

It’s no laughing matter to see Bohane’s love for photography. When people see black and white photos, he sees color in them. He sees definition in the subject, and uniqueness of its presentation. Bohane’s old school, but there’s nothing wrong with his vision. He tucked nearly 50 black-and-white films into his camera bag (again, old school and outdated) and used all of them in a span of three weeks.

“A lot of people are looking for that one photo that will be their claim to fame, but I don’t think that exists,” Bohane said. “I think a person will be defined by the number of things he has done, not just one thing.”

A contributor to Australia-based Wakaphotos, Bohane has the largest individual photo archive of the South Pacific. Prestigious places like the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, British Museum and Australian War Memorial collect Bohane’s products. He has also

had his work featured in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Vanity Fair* and other worldwide popular publications.

His current work will be featured at <http://www.pacificpolitics.com> and in upcoming documentaries at a later date.

Afghanistan isn’t Bohane’s world, but he still tracks down Fijians, Papua New Guineans, Chuukese, Hawaiians, and of course, Australians. Aside from their Pacific unity, the nations have one big thing in common: An Afghanistan exodus in December. The drawdown of NATO coalition forces by next year means a lot of nations will not come back.

Not all turned to Bohane’s favor. He tracks down a Tongan unit at Camp Bastion and fully explains his intent. They refuse to comply. He reiterates his purpose and immense love for the Pacific, but the Tongans don’t care.

“They just didn’t want to play,” Bohane said. “Oh well, bad on them.”

There are no signs of Marshallese or New Caledonians. Bohane didn’t even come across a “Ni Vanuatu.” Maybe they’re here in Afghanistan, but Bohane runs out of time to search. Or maybe it’s just because the Pacific Ocean is just too vast, and not every nation views Afghanistan as a stopover. It is the beautiful Pacific after all; more to see on that side of the world than one in conflict in the Middle East.

Yet another reason why Bohane’s strides are long. There’s so much the Pacific Islands have to offer—aside from conflict, wars and religion—that even after 25 years, Bohane’s just taking the first few steps.

“I’m not in this for the career,” Bohane said. “I’m in this for the love of life. All I know is, my photos will live a lot longer than me.”

Campus Life

GED test-takers rushing to meet Dec. 31 deadline

KIMBERLY HEFLING

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans who passed part, but not all, of the GED test are rushing to finish the high school equivalency exam before a new version rolls out in January and their previous scores are wiped out. About 1 million people could be affected.

With the new version, test takers must use a computer instead of paper and pencil. The test itself will be more rigorous and cost more - at \$120, the price in some states will be significantly higher than previous versions. Some places may subsidize all or part of the cost.

"This is the thing that's sort of putting the spur in the saddle," said Leicester Johnson, executive director of Academy of Hope, an adult charter school in Washington. "People just don't want to start over."

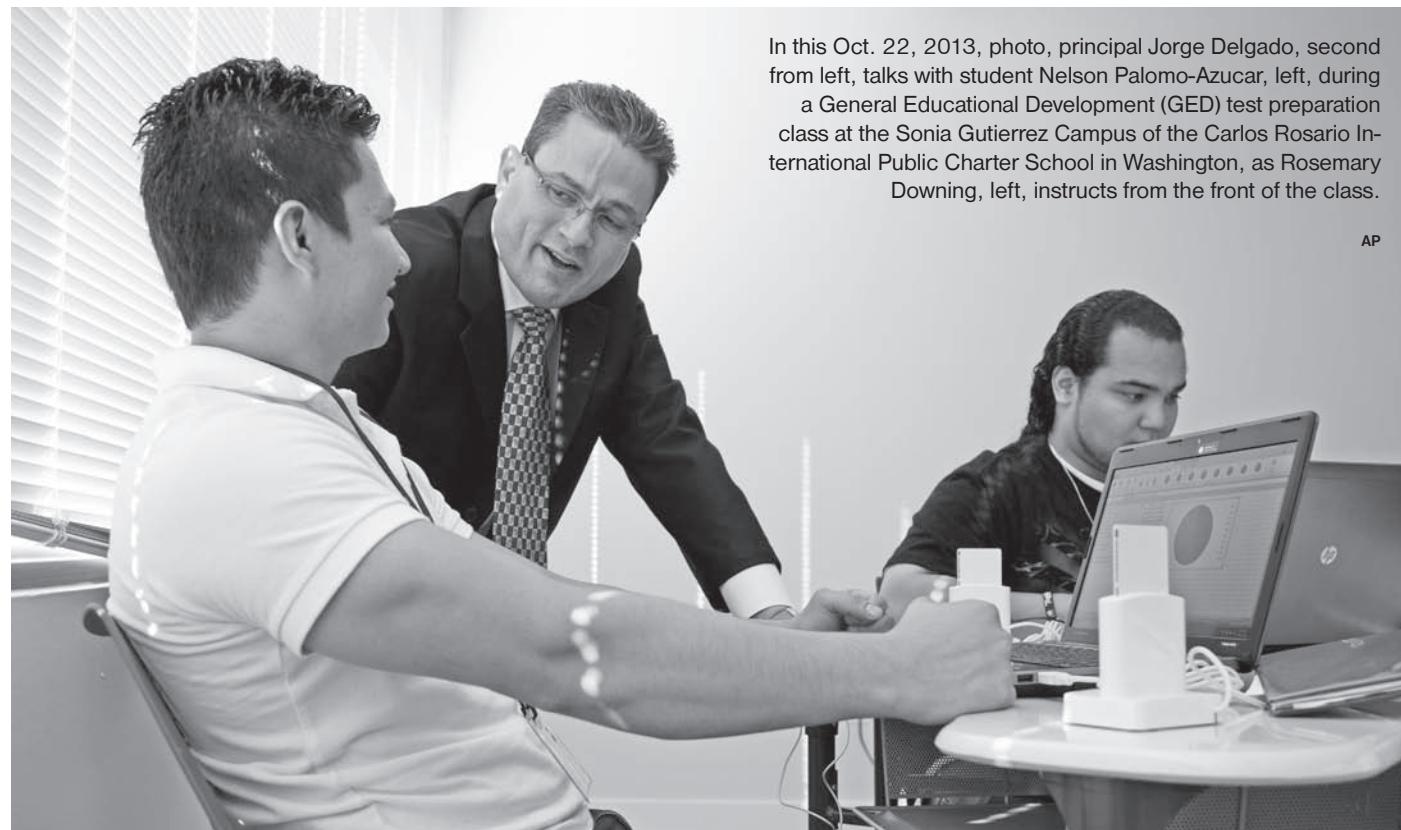
Test takers have been warned for more than a year about the approaching Dec. 31 deadline to complete the test. States and localities are phoning people, and thousands of letters have gone out—including to 32,000 Californians who passed parts but not all the test in the last two years.

"We don't want anyone to be caught off-guard and come in and test in January or February thinking they have their old scores, and they have to start over," said Pam Blundell, who oversees adult education for the Oklahoma State Department of Education. She said Oklahoma test sites have added additional test days and referred students to other sites.

The management and staff of Green Meadow School, with the parents, friends, and supporters, congratulate all GMS students that competed in the Primary Grade Forensic Competition held on Oct. 26, 2013, at Kagman Elementary School for another outstanding performance. Keep up the good work, winners!

K-2 DIVISION

- 1st – Reading Forum A: Kriselle Bryana Drillon
- 1st – Impromptu Speaking A: Bernice Shane Sabino
- 1st – Duo Interpretation A: Chealzka Navarro and Arro Solana Hunter
- 2nd – Reading Forum A: Honey June Satur
- 2nd – Dramatic Interpretation A: Ariel Alyssa Legaspi
- 2nd – Choral Speaking: Raiden Roquelara, Santino Malonzo, John Enrico Cavinta, Nelson Isaac Acaba, and Nolan Nate Jr.
- 3rd – Duo Interpretation A: Kriselle Drilon and Danielle Nicole Sacramento
- 3rd – Dramatic Interpretation A: Bernice Shane Sabino



In this Oct. 22, 2013, photo, principal Jorge Delgado, second from left, talks with student Nelson Palomo-Azucar, left, during a General Educational Development (GED) test preparation class at the Sonia Gutierrez Campus of the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School in Washington, as Rosemary Downing, left, instructs from the front of the class.

AP

Nicole Chestang, executive vice president at GED Testing Service, said the rush was expected. In 2001, the year before the last upgrade, there was a 30 percent increase in test takers, most toward the end of the year, she said.

She advised people to register for the exam now, even if they don't take it until later in November or December.

Some critics have challenged the price increases and the mandate that test takers use a computer - issues that affect many people living in poverty.

This is the first upgrade since for-profit Pearson Vue Testing acquired a joint ownership interest in the GED Testing Ser-

vice. For 70 years, GED Testing Service has been run by the nonprofit American Council on Education.

GED exam officials have said the changes will modernize the test and align it with new college and career-ready standards adopted in a majority of states.

They say basic computer skills are needed in a modern workplace - even to apply for jobs at places like retail stores and fast-food chains. On a recent test given to adults worldwide of workplace skills including math, reading and problem-solving using technology, American adults scored below the international average.

The test also will allow peo-

ple to receive their scores the same day, rather than having to wait a month or more.

Frustrated with the changes, some states have opted instead to begin using other high school equivalency exams. One is Wyoming, which has adopted the additional use of two other tests.

Jim Rose, executive director of the Wyoming Community College Commission, said officials are exploring whether students who have passed sections of the GED can apply that toward passing one of the other high school equivalency exams.

"Our centers are really committed to trying to make this something that is workable for students instead of a kind

of high-stakes, winner-take-all game in which if you don't complete by December, then you've got to begin again, and that's going to create a hardship for students," Rose said.

In Washington, D.C., Antoinette Mitchell, a deputy assistant superintendent of education, says she feels some urgency. "We are trying in numerous ways to get the word out to get them to come back," she said.

In a low-income neighborhood on the new campus of the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School in Washington, Principal Jorge Delgado

said that instead of a last-minute rush, enrollment is declining as word spreads that the GED

exam will soon be offered only by computer. The school, which has students from more than 20 countries speaking 40-plus languages, has added new computer literacy classes. Still, he said, many English language learners are intimidated by computers.

Delgado said many of the school's students work in the hotel and restaurant industries and that passing the GED test will allow them to get a promotion to a supervisory position or enter a training program. Some are taking care of families and barely sleeping as they juggle responsibilities. He said he doesn't understand why the GED exam isn't more flexible about allowing English language learners to take the test using a pencil and paper.

"Why put more blocks in front of them? Why more obstacles when they are doing their best?" Delgado said. "What I'm seeing is students giving up already."

One student at the school who isn't giving up is Natnael Gebremariam, 32, from Eritrea in East Africa. He goes to class in the mornings, works about 50 hours a week in the afternoons and evenings at a fast-food restaurant, then spends some nights doing homework past midnight. The former teacher in his home country wants to work in information technology in the U.S. He said the pressure he feels isn't so much about the test changing, but wanting to pass the GED exam so he can take college classes.

"All I know is I have to be ready by the end of this year," said Gebremariam, in an interview in between classes.

3-5 DIVISION

1 st – Duo Interpretation A: Bernard Marcelo, and Mikee Mendoza
1 st – Reading Forum – MA: Rownel Jody Coloma
1 st – Choral Speaking: Aljanah Manabat, Angeline Norcio, Erine Ferrer, Rayven Daca, and Jody Coloma
2 nd – Dramatic Interpretation A: Jill Anne Mallari
2 nd – Duo Interpretation A: Cloe Lagmay and Kezia Arugay
2 nd – Choral Speaking: Kezia Arugay, Faith Cacdac, Cloey Lagmay, and Leunye Regalado
3 rd – Duo Interpretation A: Gia Gerrine Hemley and Renz Lester Satur
3 rd – Choral Speaking: Gia Gerrine Hemley, Miles Navarro, Mikee Mendoza, Renz Lester Satur, and Xavier Gatmaitan
4 th – Duo Interpretation A: Erin Ferrer and Raven Daca
4 th – Humor Interpretation: Jill Anne Mallari
5 th – Reading Forum C: Bernard Marcelo
5 th – Reading Forum B: Christian Bert Daniel

Congratulations to Green Meadows' PGFC winners



- 3rd – Impromptu Speaking A: Jeremiah Alfred
- 3rd – Choral Speaking: Josh Coloma, Jeremiah Alfred, Patrick Gregorio, John Paul Salamat, and Elijah Umali
- 3rd – Duo Interpretation A: Kriselle Drilon and Danielle Nicole Sacramento
- 3rd – Dramatic Interpretation A: Bernice Shane Sabino

- 4th – Choral Speaking: Andrielle Coloma, EJ Quiambao, Kristine dela Cruz, Nicole Sacramento, and Honey June Satur
- 4th – Duo Interpretation A: Elijah R. Umali
- 4th – Impromptu Speaking A: Elijah R. Umali
- 4th – Impromptu Speaking A: Elijah R. Umali

- 4th – Reading Forum A: Lorenz Espiritu
- 4th – Duo Interpretation A: Elijah R. Umali
- 4th – Impromptu Speaking B: Areeza Gaile Anda
- 4th – Choral Speaking: Angel Manalo, Carmelo Banzagale, Kieh Diane Ebuen, Nichole Llaga, and Jasmyne Tolentino

Life & Style

Malala steals show at Glamour awards

NEW YORK (AP)—There was a flamboyant pop star. A legendary singer. A TV star, some supermodels, and one of the world's most powerful philanthropists. Even a former secretary of state who may soon be running for president.

But of all the prominent women who appeared onstage Monday night at the Glamour Women of the Year awards, no one received more acclaim and adoration than a teenager whom no one had heard of little more than a year ago—16-year-old Pakistani education activist Malala Yousafzai.

"We love you, Malala!" shouted a group of young girls from a high balcony in Carnegie Hall, where the annual event was held. The teenager blew back a kiss, and proceeded to give an impassioned speech.

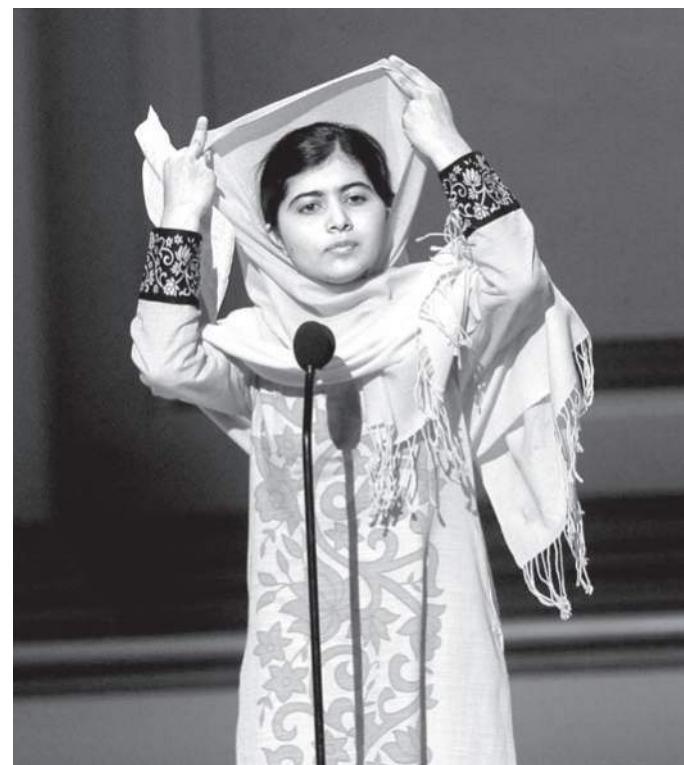
"I believe the gun has no power at all," said Malala, who caught the world's attention when the Taliban shot her in the head in October 2012 for criticizing the group's interpretation of Islam, which limits girls' access to education. She has since gained global prominence, has started The Malala Fund to support education for girls, and recently released a memoir, "I Am Malala."

"I believe the gun has no power because a gun can only kill," she said. "But a pen can give life."

It wasn't just the crowd that was taken with Malala; her fellow honorees referred to her often as they took the stage, and the night's most flamboyant honoree, Lady Gaga, said she wished this month's Glamour magazine cover, which features her, had been devoted to Malala instead.

"If I could forfeit my Glamour cover I would give it to Malala," she said.

In a long and sometimes rambling speech, the pop singer, who sported a huge mane of frizzy white hair, a glistening white suit



Education activist Malala Yousafzai accepts The Women of the Year Fund Honoree Award on stage at the 2013 Glamour Women of the Year Awards on Monday, Nov. 11, 2013 in New York.

and her typically sky-high platform shoes, also said she thought she looked too artificially beautiful on that cover. "I do not look like that when I wake up in the morning," she said.

Gaga added that despite her huge fame, "my true talent is not the clothes, and not the music. I really feel that what I am best at is seeing the potential in other people." She referred to her campaign against bullying among young people, and recalled the case of a young fan who committed suicide in 2011 after being bullied, Jamey Rodemeyer.

"Do you really know how your child feels when they are home at night?" the singer challenged the crowd.

The evening's Lifetime Achievement Award went to Barbra Streisand, who told the audience that she had been lucky enough to be born with a good singing voice. "That voice ultimately allowed me to speak out and have my opin-

ions heard," said Streisand, 71, who proceeded to forcefully air many of them—including her choice for the next president. "There's never been a woman president," Streisand said, "but I hope that will change very soon—hint, hint! And we really need her now."

She was referring, of course, to Hillary Rodham Clinton, who surprised the crowd by appearing to present a first-time award—Couple of the Year—to former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her husband, retired astronaut Mark Kelly.

It was a poignant moment for Giffords, who had been unable to attend when she was honored with a Glamour award in 2011, because she was still recovering from wounds suffered early that year when she was shot while meeting constituents in a supermarket parking lot. "It's been a hard, long time but I'm getting better," she told the crowd, saying she was doing "speech therapy, physical

therapy, and yoga too."

"I'm still fighting to make the world a better place, and you can, too," she said. The couple has founded a gun safety organization, Americans for Responsible Solutions.

Another emotional highlight was the appearance of Kaitlin Roig-DeBellis, a first-grade teacher at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., who saved her pupils from death by herding them into a small bathroom, where they hid as shots rang out last December.

"I have lived my life so as not to let that day define myself—or my students," said Roig-DeBellis, who had much of the audience in tears. She was accompanied by a group of parents whose children she had saved.

Also honored: Melinda Gates, who with her husband, Bill Gates, founded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a huge philanthropic force. Gates was described by her award presenter, actress and writer Lena Dunham, as "the most stunning example of putting your money where your mouth is that the world has ever seen."

After the Carnegie Hall ceremony, the honorees, presenters and guests attended a private dinner at the famed Oak Room at the Plaza Hotel. It was a scene of fascinating combinations. Lady Gaga approached Malala, for example, and the two took photos together.

"Never be afraid to speak your mind," the pop singer told the activist—who is famous for doing just that. "I can't wait until my fans hear your story," she added.

Watching it all was supermodel Iman, who said she had been deeply moved by Malala's speech.

"She is a game-changer for girls," Iman said. "I wish young girls here knew more about Malala, and less about the Kardashians."

before. They had a daughter, Carmen, this past August.

Hilaria Baldwin also is expected to testify.

Sabourin says she and Baldwin had a 2010 tryst and a two-way exchange of emails. Her lawyer, Todd Spodek, has said Sabourin wasn't stalking the actor, just seeking "closure" after he stopped talking to her.

Alec Baldwin's career has included a Tony-nominated turn as Stanley Kowalski in "A Streetcar Named Desire" on Broadway, incarnating action hero Jack Ryan in the 1990 film "The Hunt for Red October" and an Academy Award nomination for his supporting role in the 2003 drama "The Cooler."



In this Jan. 27, 2013 file photo, Alec Baldwin arrives at the 19th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

former Hilaria Thomas in 2012, after they began dating the year

Expressing your gratitude never goes out of style

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: With the holidays approaching, a reminder is in order. People: Don't forget those thank-you notes! I don't mean an email, but a REAL, honest-to-gosh thank-you note sent through the mail with postage.

My mother always told me that a gift is not truly yours until a proper thank-you has been sent. She said it "completed the transfer." I was not allowed to play with the item or use it until that note was written.

This is especially true for young people today, who seemingly were not taught this in school or by their parents. Very young children can draw a picture, and the parent can add a line to say it was drawn to express thanks. As the child matures, he/she can use his/her own words of gratitude.

I can't tell you how many parents comment on the absence of this display of etiquette. Good manners are never out of date. They are noticed and appreciated. From time to time I have seen you mention your booklet on "How to Write Letters." If it includes a section on thank-you notes, I'm sure it would be helpful to a lot of people in the next two months.

ELINOR IN SURPRISE, ARIZ.

DEAR ELINOR: The booklet does. Not a day goes by that I don't receive letters and emails from readers who are upset enough to write because they haven't received a thank-you note for a birthday, graduation, wedding or holiday gift they sent. Some of the writers say they are so hurt and offended that they will stop giving gifts because they were left hanging, wondering if their gift was ever received. The problem may be that many parents no longer insist their children practice this courtesy, so the kids never learn how to do it.

Chief among the reasons that thank-you notes aren't sent is that many people don't know what to say. They think the note has to be a long, flowery composition when, in fact, short and to the point is more effective.

Keeping a notepad handy when opening gifts and immediately taking a moment to jot down the first thought that comes to mind is helpful. (Example: Do you like the color? The style? Is it something you had been looking for and couldn't find? Is it a special homemade treat? Mmmm.) WRITE IT DOWN.

While letter-writing or even emailing may seem like a chore, there are times when a handwritten note is the most appropriate means of communicating one's thoughts. My booklet contains sample letters for almost any occasion. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby—Letters Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Inside you will find many samples that can be used as patterns from which to write your own.

For anyone who has ever wondered where to begin when writing a note of thanks, offering warm congratulations, condolences, composing a love letter or the opposite—anouncing a broken engagement or a decision to divorce—"How to Write Letters" is a handy guide for people who put off writing because they don't know what to say.

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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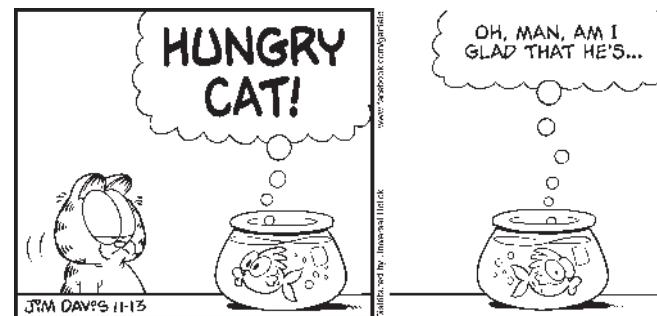
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Watterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	28	Chicken, on a Mexican menu	DOWN	9	Honor
1	Wit-nessed		1	Coffee en-hancer	10 Faraway craft?
4	Upper limit		2	Help a hood	12 "Give me liberty"
7	Big brass boomer		3	Laundry day	speaker Patrick
8	Ancient Greek council		33	Marx Brothers classic	14 Taro root
10	Incites		36	Eats hurriedly	15 Sleep phenom
11	Spate		37	Tittles	19 Before
13	Cleaning tool		38	Dickens' Mr. Heep	20 Grand
16	"— the ramparts ..."		39	Not procrastinating	—, N.S.
17	Figure of speech		40	Under the weather	6 Calculator
18	Compass dir.		41	Actor Beatty	21 Designer Chanel et al.
19	Conclusions				22 Insight
20	Salon request				23 Big ball
21	Freight				24 Feeling
23	Rife with bacteria				25 "Zip-a-Dee-Doo—"
25	Nitwit				26 Meat
26	Notoriety				28 Danger
27	Expert				29 Rubbish
					30 Stinky
					31 "Phooey!"
					32 Donkey
					34 Rani's wrap
					35 Sharpen



Yesterday's answer 11-13

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gerard Butler, 44; Whoopi Goldberg, 58; Chris Noth, 59; Joe Mantegna, 66.

Happy Birthday: Keep life simple and moving along at a pace that you can deal with easily. Refuse to be railroaded into anything that you haven't had time to give sufficient thought to, or in order to appease demanding people. Use your keen sense of perception to come up with alternatives and you will set a standard. Focus on success. Your numbers are 3, 14, 21, 27, 36, 43, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Work will pay off, so don't feel you are being taken for granted. It's important to show your capabilities in order to secure your position. What you do now will turn you into a valuable commodity later. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Summon help and delegate work to the people you feel have the best to offer. Partnerships will bring you additional opportunities that will allow you to expand your skill set. A romantic relationship will boost your confidence. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let your emotions or your ego surface, causing you to look unprofessional. Remain as levelheaded as possible and focus on whatever jobs you've been given. Unexpected maneuvers are developing and a quick reaction will be required. **★★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): This is the time for you to reach out to people you care about or that you want to get to know

better. Catch up on correspondence or reconnect with an old friend. Plan a reunion or revisit an interest you used to enjoy. Love beckons. **★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): An investment will pay off. Don't annoy someone who has an influence on the way a deal will transpire. Protect your interests and take a proactive approach and you will reach your goal. Be prepared to make a move. **★★★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Communication is essential to getting along better with the people you deal with, but trust in what you know you can do on your own. What others offer will be a nice addition to what you have already done. Stay in control. **★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stick to the more obscure choices and work methods and you will find your niche, but make sure you stay within your budget. An unexpected situation with someone you have partnered with personally or professionally should be handled with care. **★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 22): Getting involved in your community or a group that interests you will lead to good fortune. Your intuition will help you decipher the best path to follow. A chance meeting with someone you've worked with in the past will lead to an opportunity. **★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Jump in and make the changes that will improve your life. You may have to make a move and not everyone will like your decisions. Protect your assets and possessions. **★★★★★**

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look at every angle and opportunity offered to you. Your astute way of dealing with others will give you the edge. A job that you've wanted will be within reach. Don't be afraid to step out on a limb and do what's least expected. **★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be faced with doubt and concern when dealing with others. Step back and look at what everyone else is doing before you make a decision that could be costly. Experiment with your own ideas and do what's best for you. **★★★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Do what works best for you. Don't feel pressured to measure up to someone else's standard. Set your own rules; follow your heart and your dreams. Doing your own thing will be what leads to your success and happiness. **★★★**

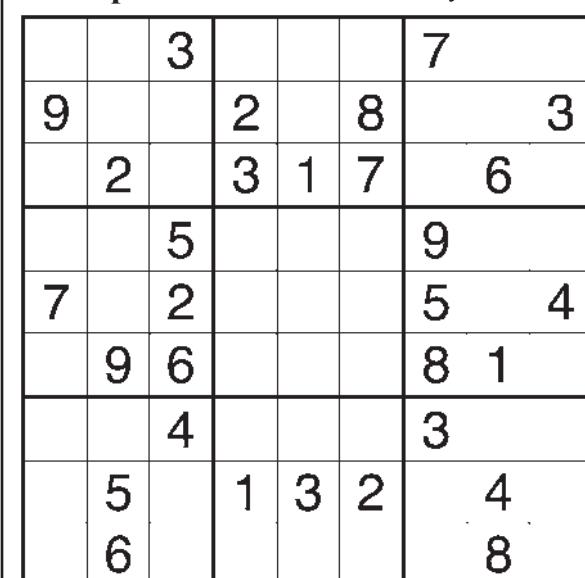
Birthday Baby: You are caring and aim to please. You are attentive and just.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	2	4	7	5	6	1	8	3
3	5	6	9	1	8	2	7	4
8	1	7	4	3	2	9	6	5
7	3	9	5	2	1	8	4	6
1	4	8	3	6	7	5	9	2
5	6	2	8	4	9	7	3	1
2	7	3	6	8	5	4	1	9
6	8	1	2	9	4	3	5	7
4	9	5	1	7	3	6	2	8

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Solution: 8 letters

E C N E I C S E N E K L A C W
M I X T U R E V E N U E S H M
S D N E L B E N Z E N E O E O
V E T H A N O L E U F S M A T
G E N E R A T O R L N L U P O
R N E C I N A G R O I A I E R
E A H M K N A T B T I W M R C
T X E U N G R R E F I N E R Y
P E D E O A A R E N C M R E C
O H A L K C T L S D E O P D L
C O R O O U T U L P G W L U E
I L G R I M E A R O A E S R A
L C D T L E Y D N A N R R C N
E Y I E T N A L P E L S K S S
H C M P P E R F O R M A N C E

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Purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 36, 37 or 38 for the holidays by calling 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universalclick.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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Bucs hold off Dolphins 22-19 for first victory



TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Tampa Bay's status as the NFL's only winless team didn't last long.

Rookie Mike Glennon threw a 1-yard touchdown pass to tackle Donald Penn and led a long fourth-quarter TD drive to put the Buccaneers ahead for good in a 22-19 victory over the embattled Miami Dolphins on Monday night.

Bobby Rainey's 1-yard run capped an 80-yard drive, and the Bucs held on the final 10 minutes to become the last team in the league to win this season.

Jacksonville beat Tennessee on Sunday, leaving Tampa Bay (1-8) as the league's only winless team entering the game.

"It's good to stand up here after a win," Bucs coach Greg Schiano said after his team won for only the second time in 15 games dating to last season. "We have to build off this."

Playing for the first time since a bullying scandal, the Dolphins (4-5) started slowly before overcoming an early 15-0 deficit to lead 19-15 heading into the fourth quarter.

Ryan Tannehill threw touchdown passes of 6 and 19 yards to Rishard Matthews, but got no help from a running game that was limited to just 2 yards rushing.

The Bucs sacked Tannehill twice on Miami's final possession before Darrelle Revis intercepted Tannehill's fourth-down desperation throw intended for Mike Wallace with 1:35 remaining.

"We have good guys on this team who understand adversity and understand how to handle it," Tannehill said. "This is a good test. I'm not saying it's easy. I'm not saying it's fun to deal with. But I have faith in these guys."

Tampa Bay held fourth-quarter leads in four of its eight losses, losing each time in the final 89 seconds of regulation or overtime.

"It had the same feeling going

down the stretch," Schiano said. "But our guys bowed up and made some plays."

Glennon completed 11 of 21 for 139 yards in his sixth pro start. The third-round draft pick threw his first interception in four games—a span of 159 attempts—to set up a third-quarter field goal that put the Dolphins up 19-15.

Tannehill finished 27 of 42 for 229 yards, two touchdowns and an interception.

The Bucs saluted Hall of Famer Warren Sapp at halftime, retiring his No. 99 jersey and inducting the 1999 NFL defensive player of the year and 2002 Super Bowl champion into the team's Ring of Honor.

The Dolphins had not played since Oct. 31, when they beat Cincinnati 22-20 in overtime to stop a four-game skid.

They've been the talk of the league for the wrong reasons ever since.

The NFL is investigating tackle Jonathan Martin's allegations of daily harassment by teammates, including suspended guard Richie Incognito. Martin is with his family in California to undergo counseling for emotional issues, and he'll meet later this week with the league's special investigator to discuss the allegations.

The special investigator will determine whether Incognito harassed Martin, and whether the Dolphins mishandled the matter.

Owner Stephen Ross broke his silence on the situation during a news conference before the game at Raymond James Stadium. He said he was appalled by the player's accusations and plans to meet with Martin on Wednesday at an undisclosed location.

"Obviously there was a voice we weren't hearing," Ross said, adding he will take an open mind into the meeting and is eager to learn the facts of the case.

The owner said he has formed an independent advisory group that includes Tony Dungy, Don



Tampa Bay Buccaneers tackle Donald Penn spikes the ball after catching a 1-yard touchdown pass against the Miami Dolphins during the first half of an NFL football game in Tampa, Fla., Monday, Nov. 11, 2013.

Shula, Dan Marino, Jason Taylor and Curtis Martin to review organizational conduct policies and to make recommendations on areas for improvement.

"We need to look at ourselves. We have to examine everything internally," Ross said. "This is so appalling to me. I know I'm capable of overreacting. I want to get everybody's feedback because we all know the football locker room is a different workplace than most of us are accustomed to. I don't want to make any excuses."

With Jacksonville winning on Sunday, the Bucs entered Monday night as the only NFL team yet to win this season.

It was apparent from the start that they might be able to change their fortunes against the Dolphins, who spent much of the past week answering questions about the bullying scandal.

Glennon finished a nine-play, 76-yard, game-opening drive with his TD pass to Penn, a 6-foot-5, 340-pound tackle who discreetly slipped off the line and was all alone in the end zone. Mike James ran five times for 41 yards on the drive before leaving the game with a broken left ankle.

The Bucs built the lead to 15-0 with a pair of field goals by Rian Lindell and a safety before Tannehill got the Dolphins on track in the closing minutes of the second quarter.

The second-year quarterback trimmed his team's deficit to 15-7 with his first TD pass to Matthews. The second put Miami ahead 16-15 late in the third quarter.

"We moved the ball well through the air but we didn't have any balance. That caught up to us at the end of the game," Dolphins coach Joe Philbin said.

"There's a lot of football left to be played. November and December is going to determine who moves forward," Philbin said. "We have to learn from the mistakes we made and prepare better and play better."

Dolphins owner appalled by bullying scandal

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Miami Dolphins owner Stephen Ross has broken his silence on the bullying scandal that has engulfed his team, saying he's appalled by Jonathan Martin's allegations of daily harassment by teammates.

Ross said he plans to meet with Martin on Wednesday at an undisclosed location and that he has been in touch with the tackle through text messages.

"I look forward to that meeting. I think that can help us move forward," Ross said. "I'd like to hear from him what had happened, why he felt that way and what we did and what we could have done to prevent something like this from happening. I want to hear the circumstances, the facts."

The owner vowed before Monday night's game between

the Dolphins and Tampa Bay Buccaneers to get to bottom of the allegations and create a locker room culture that "suits the 21st century."

"It couldn't have been a worse nightmare," said Ross, who was joined at the press conference by team president and chief executive officer Tom Garfinkel.

The NFL is investigating Martin's allegations against teammates, including Richie Incognito. Martin, 24, is with his family in California to undergo counseling for emotional issues. Incognito, 30, has been suspended indefinitely.

A special investigator for the league will determine whether Incognito harassed Martin, and whether the Dolphins mishandled the matter.

"We simply don't know what happened or didn't hap-

pen yet," Garfinkel said. "We want to know the truth."

Ross strongly endorsed second-year Dolphins coach Joe Philbin, saying he had the "utmost confidence" in the man he hired in 2012. The owner, however, did not express support for beleaguered general manager Jeff Ireland.

"Joe Philbin is probably one of the most organized people I've ever met," Ross said. "When I interviewed him that stood out, but what also stood out was his character. I don't think there is a better person, a more respected person, a more caring person in the National Football League than Joe Philbin."

Ross said he has formed an independent advisory group that includes Tony Dungy, Don Shula, Dan Marino, Jason Taylor and Curtis Martin to review

meeting with Martin.

"I want to hear the facts," the owner said, adding that he'd also like to meet with Incognito. "He deserves to be heard," Ross said of the suspended guard.

"We need to look at ourselves. We have to examine everything internally," Ross said. "This is so appalling to me. I know I'm capable of overreacting. I want to get everybody's feedback because we all know the football locker room is a different workplace than most of us are accustomed to. I don't want to make any excuses."

Neither Ross nor Garfinkel addressed an ESPN report that Martin is likely done for the season and feels he cannot return to the Dolphins.

Martin's agent Kenneth Zuckerman did not respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press.

Ross said he will take an "open mind" going into his

Incognito is not a racist, and they've been more supportive of the veteran guard than they have of Martin.

The 6-3, 319-pound Incognito has long been labeled one of the NFL's dirtiest players with a reputation for out-of-bounds behavior off the field. But this season he was a member of the player leadership council, raising questions about the role of Philbin, his staff and Miami management in the case.

The scandal is the latest public-relations headache for Ross since he became majority owner of the Dolphins in 2009. They've endured four consecutive losing seasons, their longest such streak since the 1960s, and often play in a half-empty stadium, their local popularity eclipsed by the Miami Heat.

Ross apologized to Dolphins fans "for being in this position. I know we will come out of this as a better organization."

Pacers roll past Memphis 95-79 to stay unbeaten

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Paul George scored 23 points and Lance Stephenson had the first triple-double of his career, leading the Indiana Pacers to a 95-79 victory Monday over the Memphis Grizzlies.

Indiana became the NBA's seventh team to open 8-0 since 2000—two more wins than the franchise's previous best start. And they followed a familiar script in the battle between last season's conference runner-ups by dominating the glass, dominating the second half and divvying up top honors.

Stephenson finished with 13 points, 11 rebounds and a career-high 12 assists. George Hill scored 13 points and Roy Hibbert added five more blocks to his NBA-leading total.

Memphis was led by Marc Gasol with 15 points and Zach Randolph with 12.

Spurs 109, 76ers 85

In Philadelphia, Danny Green scored 18 points and Tony Parker had 14 as San Antonio rolled to an easy victory.

The defending Western Conference champions are off to a 7-1 start following consecutive wins in New York and Philadelphia.

Evan Turner scored 20 points and Spencer Hawes had 17 for the Sixers, who couldn't give coach Brett Brown a better effort in his first game against his former team.

Brown spent 11 years in San Antonio, including seven as an assistant under Gregg Popovich and was part of the team's four championships.

The Spurs didn't even need Tim Duncan, who was given a rest in the second of back-to-back games.

Hawks 103, Bobcats 94

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Al Horford scored 24 points as Atlanta handed Charlotte coach Steve Clifford a loss in his first



Indiana Pacers guard Lance Stephenson, right, gets a bucket on a shot under Memphis Grizzlies forward Tayshaun Prince in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Monday, Nov. 11, 2013. AP

game back since undergoing a heart procedure.

Clifford missed Charlotte's game last Friday night against the New York Knicks after

having two stents placed in his heart.

The Hawks trailed by nine at halftime but outscored the Bobcats 34-16 in the third quarter

behind 72 percent shooting to take control of the game. Horford had 13 points in the third quarter to help turn the tide for the Hawks.

shook hands when the winner was revealed on MLB Network.

Fernandez easily topped runner-up Yasiel Puig of the Los Angeles Dodgers as Cuban players ran 1-2 in the NL race. The only previous Rookie of the Year winners from Cuba came in the AL: Jose Canseco in 1986 and Tony Oliva in 1964.

"It means a lot just to be compared to those guys," Fernandez said. "I'm not sure I was even born when those guys were playing. But for sure I heard the names before. ... All the kids in Cuba play baseball."

Puig received the other four first-place votes and amassed 95 points to 142 for Fernandez, who made the All-Star

team at age 20. He went 12-6 with a 2.19 ERA and 187 strikeouts for a last-place club that finished 62-100.

Fernandez was shut down in September after 172 2-3 innings to protect his precious arm.

Still, his debut season was so superb that he's one of three finalists for the NL Cy Young Award—though Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw is a heavy favorite.

Fernandez already has one big prize, however, and he hugged his mother and grandmother when he won.

He came to the United States by boat as a Cuban refugee in 2008, apparently rescuing his mom along the way. Drafted 14th overall in 2011 out of high school in Tampa, Fla., he

Jeff Teague had 14 points and 12 assists, while Cartier Martin chipped in with 16 points.

Josh McRoberts led the Bobcats with 19 points and seven assists. Michael Kidd-Gilchrist had 16 points, but none in the second half. Al Jefferson had 10 points and seven rebounds in his first game back from an ankle injury.

Celtics 120, Magic 105

In Boston, Avery Bradley scored 24 points as Boston beat Orlando for the second time in four days.

Kelly Olynyk, Jordan Crawford and Jeff Green each had 16 points for Boston, which has won four straight after opening the season with four losses under first-year coach Brad Stevens. The Celtics shot 60 percent (51 for 85).

Arron Afflalo had 18 points and seven assists, Victor Oladipo scored 17 points and Nikola Vucevic had 15 points and 10 boards for Orlando, which dropped its 16th straight road game.

It was Boston's 10th straight win in the series, dating back to the Magic's victory at home on Christmas in 2010. The Celtics won 91-89 at Orlando on Friday night.

Bulls 96, Cavaliers 81

In Chicago, Derrick Rose had 16 points before leaving in the fourth quarter with an apparent injury as Chicago pulled away from Cleveland.

Rose grimaced after he drove down the lane for a twisting layup with 3:39 left. He remained in the game for a short time before he was pulled for Kirk Hinrich, and a trainer then attended to the 2011 NBA MVP at the end of the bench.

Carlos Boozer scored 17 points and reserve Mike Dunleavy Jr. added a season-high 16 for Chicago, which went 24 for 26 at the free-throw line. Luol Deng finished with 12 points.

Kyrie Irving had 16 points for Cleveland, but was 5 for 19

from the field in his first game against Rose. The Cavaliers committed 20 turnovers, leading to 29 points for the Bulls.

Rockets 110, Raptors 104, 2 OT

In Houston, Jeremy Lin scored 31 points, and Dwight Howard had 18 points and 24 rebounds as Houston outlasted Toronto to snap a two-game losing streak.

Lin shot 10 of 17 from the field and hit 8 of 9 from the free throw line. James Harden finished with 26 points and 10 assists.

Howard was just 4 of 12 at the foul line. Chandler Parsons had 18 points, five rebounds and five assists for the Rockets, who could not hold a double-digit, second-half lead for the second straight game.

Rudy Gay led the Raptors with 29 points and 10 rebounds but shot 11 of 37 from the field. DeMar DeRozan added 22 points, but he struggled as well, finishing 6 of 25.

Nuggets 100, Jazz 81

In Salt Lake City, Andre Miller scored nine of his season-high 15 points in the fourth quarter as Denver defeated winless Utah.

Ty Lawson had 17 points and Kenneth Faried added 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Nuggets, who outscored the Jazz 30-13 in a dominant final period. Utah dropped to 0-8 and remained the only winless team in the NBA.

Miller hit a 3-pointer and Faried added an emphatic dunk to power a 10-1 run that gave Denver an 82-74 lead with 7:13 to play. John Lucas III drove for a layup but Miller responded with a pair of nifty baskets in the lane, and the Jazz couldn't get within nine the rest of the way.

Gordon Hayward had 22 points but didn't score in the final period. Derrick Favors added 21 points and 13 rebounds for the Jazz, who extended their worst start to a season since moving to Utah in 1979.

Rookies of the Year: Jose Fernandez and Wil Myers

NEW YORK (AP)—Jose Fernandez arrived early. Wil Myers made it big after a blockbuster trade.

Neither one needed much time to create a splash, and together they brought both Rookie of the Year awards back to Florida.

Fernandez stood out in a very deep National League class this season, and the precocious Miami Marlins pitcher received 26 of 30 first-place votes from a Baseball Writers' Association of America panel in results announced Monday.

Myers won the American League prize after the Tampa Bay slugger put up impressive offensive numbers in barely half a season. The right fielder was chosen first on 23 of 30 ballots, beating out Detroit shortstop Jose Iglesias and Rays teammate

Chris Archer.

"Honestly, when I was called up that didn't even cross my mind. As the season went on I could see I would have a chance," Myers said on a conference call from his North Carolina home. "To be able to win is just a huge honor and I'm very excited about it."

The two announcements marked the beginning of awards week in baseball. NL and AL Manager of the Year will be revealed Tuesday, with the Cy Young winners Wednesday and MVPs on Thursday.

Myers became the third Tampa Bay player in six years to be selected Rookie of the Year, joining Jeremy Hellickson (2011) and Evan Longoria (2008). Seated next to each other, Myers and Archer smiled and

shook hands when the winner was revealed on MLB Network.

Fernandez easily topped runner-up Yasiel Puig of the Los Angeles Dodgers as Cuban players ran 1-2 in the NL race. The only previous Rookie of the Year winners from Cuba came in the AL: Jose Canseco in 1986 and Tony Oliva in 1964.

"It means a lot just to be compared to those guys," Fernandez said. "I'm not sure I was even born when those guys were playing. But for sure I heard the names before. ... All the kids in Cuba play baseball."

Puig received the other four first-place votes and amassed 95 points to 142 for Fernandez, who made the All-Star

had never pitched above Class A before this season. Fernandez was ticketed for Double-A Jacksonville at the end of spring training when injuries left two holes in Miami's rotation.

Fernandez became an unexpected addition to the roster, making him the youngest pitcher on a major league team on opening day.

"I wasn't planning on being in the big leagues," he said.

The surprises haven't stopped—on and off the mound.

One day before winning the rookie award, a shocked Fernandez was reunited with his grandmother in Florida with help from his lawyer.

"Out of nowhere," the pitcher said. "I have no idea how it happened."

Now, she can visit for a few years and see him play in the

majors.

"Pretty excited about that," Fernandez said.

After the Marlins dumped nearly all their high-priced stars last winter, Fernandez was a rare bright spot this season. The right-hander became the fourth Marlins player in 11 years to win Rookie of the Year, following Chris Coghlan (2009), Hanley Ramirez (2006) and Dontrelle Willis (2003).

"I'm very happy that he won," Puig told MLB.com in comments circulated by the Dodgers. "He worked really hard to achieve this and he pitched extremely well with Miami and he deserved this just as we deserved to be nominated. I am happy for him, that a Cuban won. I'm happy his grandmother arrived and I hope he enjoys his time with his grandmother and enjoys the prize he won."

Adobo back on track, beats NMI Contractor

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roeslyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 Defending champion Adobo regained its winning form after outlasting NMI Contractor, 64-56, in the second game in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Adobo won its first game in Pool A, but dropped the next two before regrouping against NMI Contractor, which continued its slide, tasting its third straight defeat in four games. Adobo snapped its skid after building a big lead in the second quarter, 37-17.

The defending champion drew at least 4 points each from three players, while three others also scored in the second canto, turning a 17-11 lead to a double-digit margin at the break. NMI Contractor faced a 20-point deficit at halftime after connecting only two field goals and 6 points in the second frame.

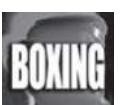
Perry Inos, Leo Galarse, and Rocyl Ritual then tried to bring NMI Contractor back in the fourth quarter, but fell short, as Adobo made rally halting baskets in the closing minutes of that period.

Lester Vertudez and Adrian Palacios top-scored for Adobo, posting 13 points apiece. Ichitaro Faisao added 8, while four other Adobo players contributed 6 markers each.

Donaire stops Darchinyan in 9th round

MANILA, Philippines—Six years ago, it was Nonito Donaire's left hand that sent down Vic Darchinyan and catapulted the Filipino to boxing stardom.

Fast forward to Sunday, it was no different as Donaire landed the same left hook that led to a ninth round stoppage of Darchinyan in their 10-round non-title featherweight rematch at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Texas.



The left blow started the end for the proud Armenian, who fell on his knees. Darchinyan was able to beat the count before Donaire went for the finish—unloading on two uppercuts prompting the referee to waive off the fight at the 2:06 mark in the penultimate round.

The 30-year-old Donaire sprung into one of boxing's elite after his surprise conquest of Darchinyan back in July of 2007 and ironically, his latest win would get him back on the championship trail since losing his WBO bantamweight crown to unbeaten Cuban stylist Guillermo Rigondeaux seven months ago.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Lester Vertudez, seen here driving against a Chinatown defender, scored 13 points in their 64-56 win over NMI Contractor in the DL Corp. caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Tribune Sports Scores

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	4	4	.500	—
Boston	4	4	.500	—
Toronto	3	5	.375	1
New York	2	4	.333	1
Brooklyn	2	4	.333	1

Southeast Division

Atlanta	4	3	.571	—
Miami	4	3	.571	—
Charlotte	3	4	.429	1
Orlando	3	5	.375	1 1/2
Washington	2	4	.333	1 1/2

Central Division

Indiana	8	0	1.000	—
Chicago	3	3	.500	4
Milwaukee	2	3	.400	4 1/2
Cleveland	3	5	.375	5
Detroit	2	4	.333	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	7	1	.875	—
Houston	5	3	.625	2
Dallas	4	3	.571	2 1/2
New Orleans	3	4	.429	3 1/2
Memphis	3	4	.429	3 1/2

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	5	1	.833	—
Portland	5	2	.714	1 1/2
Minnesota	5	3	.625	1
Denver	2	4	.333	3
Utah	0	8	.000	6

Pacific Division

Phoenix	5	2	.714	—
L.A. Clippers	5	3	.625	1 1/2
Golden State	4	3	.571	1
L.A. Lakers	3	5	.375	2 1/2
Sacramento	1	5	.167	3 1/2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	2	0	.778	234	175
N.Y. Jets	5	4	0	.556	169	231
Miami	4	5	0	.444	193	209
Buffalo	3	7	0	.300	199	259

South

Indianapolis	6	3	0	.667	222	193
Tennessee	4	5	0	.444	200	196
Houston	2	7	0	.222	170	248
Jacksonville	1	8	0	.111	115	291

North

Cincinnati	6	4	0	.600	234	186
Cleveland	4	5	0	.444	172	197
Baltimore	4	5	0	.444	188	189
Pittsburgh	3	6	0	.333	179	218

West

Kansas City	9	0	0	1.000	215	111
Denver	8	1	0	.889	371	238
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	212	202
Oakland	3	6	0	.333	166	223

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	5	5	0	.500	274	258
Dallas	5	5	0	.500	252	244
N.Y. Giants	3	6	0	.333	165	243
Washington	3	6	0	.333	230	287

South

New Orleans	7	2	0	.778	265	163
Carolina	6	3	0	.667	214	115
Atlanta	2	7	0	.222	186	251
Tampa Bay	1	8	0	.111	146	209

North

Detroit	6	3	0	.667	238	216

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Tan Holdings Tennis Classic 2013

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROY



Dylan Ackerman chases the ball down the sideline for a return to Amami Sakano during their title game in the boys U18 singles of the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic 2013 last Monday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.



Amami Sakano gets ready to serve to Dylan Ackerman.



Tania Tan stretches for a return to Julia Ishikawa during their girls U14 title game.



Julia Ishikawa makes a shot from the backcourt.



Haruya Eda prepares to serve to Michael Ren during their boys U14 game.



Michael Ren goes for a backhand return to Haruya Eda.



Maria Gregoire lets go off a wild shot from Hana Ojima.



Susan Sablan runs from the baseline for a return to Riko Ojima.



Ami Tsukagoshi returns to Julia Ishikawa.



Bucs hold off Dolphins 22-19 for first victory
PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Pacers roll past Memphis 95-79 to stay unbeaten
PAGE 25

28 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SIS tops girls v'ball league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saiyan International School took the inaugural championships in the girls varsity division of the Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League after sweeping Mt. Carmel School in last Friday's title game at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Lady Geckos may have won after only two sets, but the championship victory was a tough one, because in the first set, SIS prevailed by only two points, 25-23, and the second and last set was also a close battle with the eventual winning team pulling off a 25-22 triumph.



According to Mili Saiki, who called the shots for SIS along with John Nekafes and J.R. Gechig, the Lady Geckos made good passes, had good communication, and showed great skills on the service area and the net to out-class the Lady Knights.

League most valuable player Jeane Bracken led SIS to the title and was joined on the team

Although only four squads
See SIS on Page 26

Carey, Epperson win 10K race



Mieko Carey exchanges a hi-five with a supporter on her way to the finish line of last Sunday's 10K race in the PIC Road Race.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A familiar smile greeted spectators and supporters at the finish line of last Sunday's PIC Road, as former Saipan resident Mieko Carey emerged as the fastest female runner in the 10K race.

The now Guam-based triathlete traded hi-fives with spectators as she entered the finish line loop and completed the race from PIC to the Oleai Beach and back in 44:17. She was the lone

female runner to time in under 50 minutes and was the sixth overall behind top finisher Charles Epperson, who clocked in at 36:15.

"It's great to be back," said Carey, who will also return to Saipan for next month's Hell of the Marianas.

The 35-year-old made it to the finish line at the southern parking lot of Pacific Islands Club over six minutes ahead of



See CAREY on Page 26

Blue Haus stretches streak



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Francis Rebuyon, seen here pulling up for a jumper against DeGree's Jorge De Guzman, teamed up with Edgar Pangelinan in lifting Blue Haus to a come-from-behind 81-72 win over Laguna in the UFO Masters caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

UNITED FILIPINO ORGANIZATION

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Blue Haus avoided Laguna/Erika's Catering's upset axe after recording a come-from-behind 81-72 win at the start of the second round of the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters Division Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

After falling behind by as much as 8 points in the first half, 32-40, and still facing a 50-54 deficit at the end of the third, Blue Haus went all out in the fourth canto to steal the win from Laguna. Blue Haus sizzled for 31 points in the pivotal fourth to extend its winning run to sixth and snapped Laguna's four-game streak.

Edgar Pangelinan sparked Blue Haus' rally, while Francis Rebuyon put the finishing touches in the 9-point win. Pangelinan drilled 9 of Blue

See BLUE on Page 26